

THE  
V O Y A G E S  
AND  
ADVENTURES  
OF THE  
CHEVALIER DUPONT.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.

VOL. IV.

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VOLUME

AND

AGREEMENTS

OF THE



CHEVALE

TRANSLATED

VOLUME

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## CONTENTS OF THE FOURTH VOLUME.

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**T H E**  
**VOYAGES and ADVENTURES.**

**OF THE**  
**CHEVALIER DUPONT.**

**N**OTHING extraordinary happened during our passage to Port de Paix, where we arrived on the twenty-first of June, and came to an anchor in that port, contrary to our first design : but as the arrival of Don Guzman de Tellascos was uncertain, we rather chose to

**VOL. IV.**

**B**

**come**

## 2 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

come to an anchor, than wait off and on for him; but he was not long before he arrived, for he came alongside of us the next day, at four o'clock, under French colours; he ordered his boat out, and came directly aboard. We passed the usual compliments, and gave and received marks of the greatest friendship; he remained aboard and supped with us, and before we parted we gave him a duplicate of the list of our goods, and received another of his from him. We found upon perusal of his duplicate, that he had many things which did not suit us; indeed, since we departed from Martinico, we had altered our opinion concerning the nature of the  
com-

commodities we would receive in exchange for ours ; we were willing to receive for them, gold dust, Spanish pistoles, piaftres, gold in wedges, tobacco, cocoa, &c. therefore we resolved to acquaint Don Guzman with our desires, which we did the next day when we dined with him aboard his bark. He did not entirely coincide with our reasons, and observed, that we ought to adhere to our first agreement, but at length every thing was settled to the mutual satisfaction of both parties. It was resolved that we should sail in company the next day for the Havannah, and anchor along side Don Guzman's bark, under Spanish colors ; that Don Guzman should not exchange any



#### 4 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

part of his cargo, but receive part of ours aboard his bark, in order to exchange it with greater facility ; which we engaged to replace by the goods we expected in the shallop to meet us at Saint Domingo ; that we would return from the Havannah to the Cape under French colors, where we proposed acting for Don Guzman as he would before for us at the Havannah, by selling his goods or exchanging them with the French for others more proper for Mexico, where we intended sailing in company, after sending back our Shallop to Fort Saint Pierre.

Don

Don Guzman proposed before we left the Havannah, to get a passport for our two vessels ; and, in order more effectually to deceive those who might suspect us, we divided our crews, Don Guzman taking half our Frenchmen into his bark, and we half his Spaniards into our ship ; and, that during the time we should continue at Mexico, only Don Guzman and M. B\*\*\*, who spoke Spanish extremely well, should offer to barter or appear as the captain of the vessels ; and that Mr. Prepont, Mr. Tarcilly and myself should appear as passengers only. After having thus settled every thing, we

## 6 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

took our leave of Don Guzman, and returned aboard.

In consequence of these resolutions, we weighed the next day, the twenty-fourth of June, and sailed for the Havannah, where we arrived on the twenty-sixth, at four in the afternoon, and anchored close along side of each other. Don Guzman, Mr. Prepont and myself went ashore to pay the governor a visit at his palace, who not recollecting us at first, received us coolly, but after being informed who we were, expressed the greatest satisfaction at our return. His nephew informed him, that he had met with us off Port de Paix, that we had  
mentioned

mentioned to him our design of sailing to the Havannah to recover the remainder of what was due to us; therefore, as we had performed such an essential piece of service for him, he thought he could not do less than return with us as a proof of his gratitude. His excellency believed it, and gave us the same apartments in his palace as we had before possessed; and Mr. B\*\*\* and Mr. Tarcilly, whom we had left aboard, took the opportunity of the night, to convey the goods we wanted to exchange aboard Don Guzman's bark, that by that means they might be disposed of more readily and advantageously.

One evening that I was walking alone with Don Guzman, he reproached me for never having enquired after Donna Elvira de Cusma, since my return to the Havannah, and added, that I confirmed the reputation the French bore for inconstancy. If you had experienced a misfortune, Sir, equal to what I have suffered lately, I replied, you would, like me, think but little of renewing acquaintances with the fair sex. I then related to him the history of my amour with Mrs. Norfoyl, and acquainted him with the unhappy end of that incomparable woman, at the time I was thinking of uniting my fortune with hers for ever. I pity you very much, Don Guzman replied, but  
I do



I do not approve of your thus giving way to melancholy, it is wrong, as the loss is irreparable; therefore as a friend, I advise you to endeavour to dissipate your pensive thoughts, and to that end, I would have you renew your acquaintance with this lovely woman: you ought to inform her of your arrival, it is a piece of intelligence that she has a right to expect; she is a sensible woman, and the charms of her conversation, and the pleasures she will procure you, will, I am convinced, contribute not a little to sooth your chagrin: besides, it is a piece of gratitude that is due to her, and you must be sensible that nothing is capable of pleading an excuse for *ingratitude*.

## 10 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

If his reasoning did not absolutely convince me, it tended to alleviate my distress, and when I retired to my apartment, I abandoned myself to reflections, the result of which was, to write to Donna Elvira de Cusma. I took care to convey it to her with secrecy, and the next morning received an answer from her, which commanded me to come at noon and dine with her. I went according to her commands, and had reason to be pleased with the favorable reception she gave me, as well as the marks of her tenderness and love; but she embarrassed me very much, when she asked if I came with a design of accepting the proposal she had heretofore made me. Recovering

covering myself as well as I could, I assured her, that it would be my greatest ambition after my return from Mexico, where I told her I was then going, and that I hoped to offer with my hand an easy fortune, and a constant and faithful heart. She was so happy in this promise, and the tenderness with which I accompanied it, that she did not in the least seem to doubt the sincerity of it. We passed a most agreeable day together, and in the evening we parted, mutually pleased with each other.

Whilst I continued in that city, I went regularly every day to pass some hours with this amiable woman. The exami-

## 12 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

nation that I made of all her good qualities, determined me in the resolution of marrying her on my return from the voyage I was then going to make ; but alas ! I had begun to experience the frowns of fortune and she disconcerted all my schemes.

The fourteenth day after our arrival at the Havannah, Mr. Prépont informed me, that Don Guzman had disposed of about a fifth part of our cargo, and had received, in exchange, gold in bars, piastres, a small quantity of gold dust, and some casks of tobacco ; therefore having nothing more to do at the Havannah, he proposed to sail the next day. I went

to

to inform Donna Elvira of my departure, and we bid each other adieu with the sincerest regret.

After supper, in the evening, we took our leave of the governor, and embarked aboard our ship, as well as Don Guzman aboard of his; we weighed early next morning, and sailed for Cape François, where we anchored on the twelfth of July, at ten in the forenoon.

We went ashore to visit the governor, and were informed that he had been some days at Honpeliere; Mr. Prepont and myself resolved to go and surprise him, and we engaged Don Guzman to go with

us.



#### 14 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

us. Accordingly, we hired horses the next morning, and departed for Honpeliere. We met the governor and the Chevalier D'Aubigny walking in an avenue which led to the house ; we alighted and joined them, they expressed the greatest joy and surprise on seeing us, and immediately returned with us to the house, where they presented us to Mrs. Artinvilliers and Mrs. D'Aubigny, who received us in the politest and most friendly manner. The Chevalier informed us, that upon his return to France, he found all his affairs in a very happy and flourishing state, through the cares of Mrs. Bonneuil. He informed us that Mrs. Bonneuil had much surprized him

on

on his arrival, by telling him of the return of Duval, who after the shipwreck, had been fortunate enough to get astride a hencoop, on which he floated till he was taken up by an English vessel, and carried into Saint Kitts, from whence he procured his passage to England, and from thence to France, where he spread the report of the Chevalier's and Mrs. D'Aubigny's death by the shipwreck, and could with difficulty be persuaded of their escape, even when he saw a letter from his master dated from St. Domingo; that upon his being convinced of the fact, he was immediately for embarking to join him at the Cape, but the Chevalier's arrival in France, a few days before he

was

## 16 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

was to sail, prevented him. The Chevalier continued, that after he had settled every thing concerning the right of inheritance to his aunt, he placed the administration of his affairs in proper hands; that he had proposed to Mrs. Bonneuil the uniting her fortune with his faithful Duval's, and both of them to go with him to Saint Domingo, where he promised to make them easy for life; that they had consented, and he had brought them over with him accordingly.

We continued three days at Honpeliere and on the fourth we departed for the Cape, where M. Roche-Allard accompanied us. The governor offered a  
bed

bed to Don Guzman who accepted of it, and Mr. Prepont and myself went to lie aboard. We found that Mr. Trainfort had arrived the evening before with his shallop, we therefore informed him of our return, and he came and supped with us.

The next day we began to receive the goods that Mr. Trainfort had brought in the shallop, aboard of our ship; we afterwards ordered Mr. Trainfort and M. B\*\*\* to trade with two vessels that were just arrived, in order to exchange Don Guzman's wares. The masters of the vessels were very happy in the opportunity of disposing of their cargoes so  
advan-

18 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

advantageously and readily; and in less than five days every thing was settled to the satisfaction of all parties.

All the time we remained at the Cape, we went every day to dine at the governor's, as he had ordered us upon our first arrival. We presented M. Tarcilly to him, whom he likewise invited to come with us every day. Mr. Prepont would not present M. B\*\*\* to M. Roche-Al-lard, for some private reasons of his own.

One evening upon our return aboard, Mr. Trainfort drew me aside to desire me to engage Mr. Prepont to take him the  
voyage



voyage with him, especially as the shallop was to return only in ballast to Fort Saint Pierre, where his presence was by no means necessary, and he might be trusted to the master. I spoke of it to Mr. Prépont, and with some difficulty persuaded him to acquiesce with his lieutenant's desire.

In short, nothing detaining us longer at the Cape we informed Don Guzman of it, took our leave of M. Roche-Allard, and went aboard our vessels; the next day we both weighed and sailed for Mexico, where we arrived on the eighth of August. We anchored in the port of Acapulco, which Don Guzman chose in preference

## 20 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

preference to any other port, although sixty-five leagues distant from the capital. Don Guzman and M. B\*\*\*, who took the name of Don John de Carveyra went to pay a visit to the viceroy, Count Leganez, one of the most amiable and polite noblemen I ever knew; he received them very graciously, and gave them a permission to trade. They desired leave to present three French passengers who had been established for some years at the Havannah, who had come in their vessels to Mexico, and wanted to go to Saint Jago de Guatimala, and other cities in Mexico, to settle some affairs that belonged to them by their wives, who were Spaniards. The viceroy consented very willingly,

willingly, and Don Guzman sent Don John de Carveyra to fetch us from Aca-pulco, where we had continued aboard, with whom we returned to that capital of the new world. The day after our arrival there, we were introduced to the governor, who permitted us to continue in Mexico, and to live with Don Guzman until we departed for those provinces that were under him, where our presence was said to be necessary, and he offered us his protection if it could be any way useful to us.

Don Guzman, who had determined to fix his residence in the city of Mexico, the capital of the country of the same name,

name, in order to favor our trade, whilst Don John de Carveyra, and M. Trainfort remained at Acapulco, was charmed with the permission that had been given us ; and he ordered, in consequence of such leave, his baggage and ours to be sent to the Spanish Arms, which was the greatest inn in Eagle-street, one of the most reputable in Mexico.

About eight days after our arrival, we saw a coach enter the inn yard, from whence alighted a gentleman of about seventy years of age, a young lady about twenty, and two other females, who seemed to be her women ; the coach was drawn by six horses, and followed by a great  
num-

number of domestics. Our landlord informed us, that the gentleman's name was Don Ferdinand de Torillas, that he was very rich, and commonly resided at Vera-Cruz, but came every year to pass three months at Mexico; that after eighteen years being a widower, he had married one of the prettiest women in Mexico, whom he was jealous of without cause, and it was feared his wife would meet with as unhappy a fate as his former one, who was generally suspected to have been poisoned.

As the lady was covered with her veil when she alighted from the coach, we could only judge of her beauty by the  
report



report of our landlord, and the elegance of her shape. Don Ferdinand de Torillas had the best apartments in the house, and M. Tarcilly had a chamber separated only from theirs by a closet, which that beautiful Spaniard destined to be her dressing room. A thin wainscot divided M. Tarcilly's chamber from the dressing room, and his curiosity led him to make a hole in it about the size of a bullet, which he stopped with a wooden peg of the same color as the wainscot, when he did not use it. By that means he contemplated the beauties of the lady, and drank deep draughts of love, which occasioned him some misery, but at length procured him the greatest happiness. I  
remarked

remarked some few days afterwards that he was very much dejected and reserved, and I took an opportunity one day that we were together, to ask him the reason of it. He answered only by a deep sigh; but upon my insisting to know the cause of his chagrin; come to-morrow at ten o'clock into my chamber, he replied, and I will inform you. I went according to appointment; he met me at the door of his apartment, took me by the hand, and conducted me to the partition, from whence he drew out the peg, and told me in a very low voice to look through the hole. I saw the wife of Don Ferdinand de Torillas sitting at her toilet; she had on only an embroidered muslin petticoat;

and her handkerchief, which was not pinned, discovered a most beautiful neck; her hair, which was as black as jet, flow'd in loose ringlets upon her shoulders, and her skin excelled the driven snow in whiteness; the roses played upon her cheeks, and the most perfect symmetry was apparent in her countenance, happily for me, I was fond of pleasure that was to be purchased at an easy rate, therefore I pitied M. Tarcilly, and used my utmost efforts to destroy a passion, which at present was in its infancy, by speaking of the consequences such an affair would inevitably draw upon him; but it was in vain, and he told me when I left him, that he knew a means of informing his  
mistress

mistress of the sentiments he felt for her ;  
that he had often seen her weep, which  
evidently proved that she was unhappy ;  
that people who had so much to trouble  
them, were generally very sensible, and  
would readily attend to comfort ; and  
that it was upon that opinion he ground-  
ed all his hope. As I found that I  
could not change him from his resolution,  
I left him and went to join Mr. Prepont  
and Don Guzman, to whom I imparted  
the discovery, and the futility of the ar-  
guments I had used. They promised to  
join their intreaties to mine, to induce  
M. Tarcilly to desist from an enterprize  
that threatened such troublesome conse-  
quences ; they used the strongest argu-

ments they could suggest, but succeeded no better than I had done; for in five or six days afterwards, M. Tarcilly came to me, and upon entering my apartment, I have, he said, at length determined, my dear friend, not to suffer Donna Torillas to be any longer ignorant of the love I have for her, and that is a copy (putting a piece of paper into my hands) of the declaration I have made to her; it was in the following words.

“ Witness to your tears, adorable Toril-  
 “ las, and informed of the cause, I can-  
 “ not but be exceedingly affected with  
 “ the rigour of your fortune; and not  
 “ being in a condition to deliver you at  
 once



" once, from the cruel slavery under  
 " which you languish, I have resolved,  
 " if you are willing, to soften it in some  
 " degree, by discoursing all that part of  
 " the day with you, that you commonly  
 " pass at your toilet. How happy I  
 " shall be, if the consolation I wish to  
 " give you, may be agreeable! and if I  
 " find in you as sensible a heart, as my  
 " own, and as well disposed to answer  
 " the tender sentiments you have inspired  
 " me with, I would sacrifice a thousand  
 " lives to give you proofs of a love which  
 " will continue for ever."

As I was uncertain of the ladies under-  
 standing French, M. Tarcilly conti-  
 nued,

nued, I took the opportunity of Don John de Carveyras being here, to desire him to put it into Spanish for me: I then rolled it up and tied it to a piece of string, at the end of which I fastened a small piece of lead. I then put my billet through the hole in the partition, and the noise it made in falling occasioned her to turn her head; she saw it, took it up, opened it, and read it. After having looked carefully round, he continued, she cried out in French, Great God! what good Genii designs to favor me, and pity my distress? for certainly no human being could be a witness of my misery, except the infamous guards of my jealous husband, nor could any person

person succor me, as I am so narrowly watched. In short, she continued, whatever, or whoever you may be, deliver me from my unjust oppression, and depend upon my gratitude. But with what vain hopes do I flatter myself, is it not impossible?—No, I replied, it is not impossible, divine Torillas, believe that there are no dangers to which I would not expose myself with pleasure to deliver you from your misery. God who is this day so propitious to me, will certainly protect us in so good a cause, and facilitate our schemes; but that we may better consider of the means to snatch you from the persecutions of your jealous husband, draw nearer to the wainscoat, and you will per-

ceive a hole through which I will pass my finger, and that henceforth we may see and converse with each other with more ease, I will this day enlarge it. We discoursed together near an hour, Mr. Tarcilly continued, when Donna Torillas heard the noise of a door opening; she informed me that we must part, and presented her finger through the partition for me to kiss; I therefore stopped up the hole and withdrew. Is not the commencement happy enough he said, to make me hope the sequel will be so too? I am afraid it will not be so favorable, I replied, but it will depend very much upon the prudence with which you conduct yourself, in order to arrive at the summit

summit of your wishes, and I advise you, as well as your mistress, to take every precaution to prevent both of you becoming victims to the jealousy of Don Ferdinand de Torillas, for if either of you should give the slightest suspicion of your connection, you will both be inevitably lost.

A few days afterwards he informed me, that he had found out a way of taking a pannel out of the wainscot, by which means he passed an hour every morning in his inamorata's dressing-room : he told me also, that she returned his affection, and was continually soliciting him to procure a vessel in which she might pass with him in safety to France; that her fortune she said, which consisted of forty thousand



### 34 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

ducats in jewels and money, was more than sufficient to ensure them a genteel income in whatever place they should fix upon to settle in, and that the only thing that then perplexed him, was to procure a vessel ready to sail to France with them. Notwithstanding the great friendship I had for him, I could not but highly blame the dangerous enterprize he wanted to engage in, which might be attended with the greatest misfortune to himself; but all my remonstrances were useless.

One evening upon my return to our inn with Don Guzman, we found Mr Prepont plunged in grief. He informed us that about two hours before, upon his  
turning

turning the corner of a street, where he had been to purchase a few trifles that he wanted, he saw a croud of more than thirty people, who had surrounded a young man that had been assassinated by two men, one of whom had escaped, and the other was taken; that upon his nearer approach, he found M. Tarcilly bathed in his blood, with five stabs of a dagger in his body; that he had ordered him to the inn, where he had been dressed, but the surgeon refused to declare his opinion of the wound, till he had removed the first dressings. He returned to himself, continued Mr. Prepont, about an hour after he was brought home, and had declared the names of the two assassins, both of whom were

gambol

C 6

servants

36 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

servants belonging to Don Torillas, and desired the Chevalier D\*\*\* might be sent to him as soon as he returned. I went immediately to his apartment, which had been changed, and as soon as he perceived me, he said, Ah ! my dear friend, if I had listened to your words, I should not have been in the state in which you now see me; but alas! what will become of the unhappy wife of the greatest monster in universe? I will die if she is no more. I endeavoured to sooth him, but it was in vain, for he tore off his dressings, and declared his resolution to die. By superior strength I held his hands fast, and sent for the surgeon, who placed his dressings again as they were before; and finding

finding that his fever was increased, he desired nobody would speak to him; we therefore withdrew.

The next morning Don Guzman went to the viceroy, to whom he related the unfortunate affair, and demanded justice. The viceroy told him he might depend upon the strictest justice being administered; and immediately ordered the prisoner to be very closely watched and guarded, and upon no pretence whatever, to suffer any person to come to speak to him.

Whilst Don Guzman was at the viceroy's, I was informed by our landlord, that Don Torillas had sent his wife away

at

### 38 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

at the break of day, with her women and the greatest part of his domestics, to a castle that he had three leagues from Vera Cruz, with strict orders to confine her close to the tower, till he arrived.

In the evening the surgeon came to remove the dressings of M. Tarcilly's wounds, and declared them not mortal ; on the fourth day the fever left him, and on the seventh he was entirely out of danger. At this time Don Guzman renewed his solicitations to Count Leganez, in favor of Mr. Tarcilly. They were very effectual ; for soon afterwards Don Torillas desired the favor of a private conversation with Don Guzman, to which

he



he consented. He offered, provided he would desist from pushing the affair any further, and consent to the liberty of the prisoner, to pay all expences that had been incurred, and to give M. Tarcilly ten thousand ducats. Don Guzman required four and twenty hours to consider of it, before he gave him his answer. He went and informed the viceroy of Don Torillas's proposal, who thought he should accept it, unless he could make a better bargain. Mr. Prepont advised him to demand fifteen, which produced long debates; and at length, every thing was agreed for twelve thousand ducats, which were accordingly paid. Immediately after the release of the prisoner, the

next

#### 40 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

next day, Don Ferdinand de Torillas sent him off to his castle at Arvilla; and to prevent any accident, we gave orders that none should be admitted into the apartment of M. Tarcilly, except the surgeon and our servants. We informed Tarcilly of the compromise we had made, and told him that his misfortune might be esteemed a happy one, since what had happened through his own fault, would make him more circumspect afterwards, and teach him to avoid dangers, and it had also procured him a fortune far above his hopes. He thanked us with great sincerity, but did not express any joy. When we were going to leave him, he took me by the hand, and desired me to come alone to his apartment, as he had

had something to inform me of. I waited of him the next morning, and, as soon as he saw me, he desired me to draw near his bed-side, and said to me: As it is not possible for me, my dear friend, to survive the loss of my adorable Torillas, whose death I have occasioned, I must beg the favor of you to take care of what belongs to me, and dispose of them as I have desired in that packet, which I have sealed up, and I beg that it may not be opened till I have closed my eyes in death. I assured him that his mistress was not dead, and that her husband had only sent her away to Vera Cruz. After exhorting him not to deliver himself up to despair, he seemed to be more composed,

sed, and I desired him to relate the history of the assassination. He told me, that the day that event happened, he had gone according to custom into the dressing room of Donna Torillas ; that whilst he was with her, one of her woman had entered without being heard, and had surprized them together ; and without making any reflections, he had escaped through the opening in the wainscot ; that he immediately came out to consult me about what could be done in such a dilemma, but supposed he had been followed, as turning the second corner, he had been stabbed in several places, which had reduced him to the state in which Mr. Prepont found him.

Soon

Soon after the recovery of M. Tarcilly, Don Ferdinand de Torillas, through vexation, for having paid so dear for a vengeance only half executed, was attacked with a violent fever, which in three days carried him off, without his having had time to provide for the villains who executed his criminal desires, therefore they poured forth a thousand execrations against him. After the usual formalities, all the servants except one, who was appointed guard to the effects, departed for Vera Cruz. Mr. Tarcilly seized that opportunity of writing to his mistress; he informed her of every thing that had happened since the fatal day they had been surprized together, and he did not forget



forget to desire her constancy and fidelity. As they were not more than sixty-five leagues from each other, he soon received an answer, in which, among other things she observed, that as the death of her husband had left her mistress of her own actions, the first use she made of her liberty, was to offer him her hand, and fortune, that if the proposal was agreeable to him, he might come immediately to her at Vera Cruz, where she then resided, and that as soon as prudence would admit of it, she would give him her hand, upon condition that he took her to France. Mr. Tarcilly, now at the summit of his wishes, came to inform us of

the

the happy news, and we most sincerely congratulated him upon the occasion.

Mr. Tarcilly returned us the next day all the money that had been advanced him since his first arrival at Martinico, in order that it might be restored to those to whom it belonged, and he desired me to accept of the commodities that had been purchased for him for my own use, as a pledge of his friendship, and a proof of his gratitude. As soon as he was capable of going out of doors, he went to inform Count Leganez of the news he had received : he thanked him for the protection he had afforded him, and intreated a continuation of it. The viceroy soon gave

gave him sensible proofs of his friendship, for two days afterwards he sent him a letter of recommendation to the governor of Vera Cruz, and another to Donna Elizabeth de Cardonna, the mother of Donna Torillas.

He continued four or five days longer at Mexico, during which time he equipped himself genteely, and purchased two slaves and a post-charriot to travel in to Vera Cruz. After having taken his leave of us he departed for that city.

Although this adventure had embarrassed us very much, it had not however prevented Don Guzman and Don John de

de Carveyra from thinking of our affairs, which were very forward, when M. Tarcilly departed ; we resolved therefore to leave Don John de Carveyra at Mexico, and M. Trainfort at Acapulco, whilst Mr. Prepont and myself accompanied Don Guzman de Tellascos to Puebladelos Angelos, and Saint Jago de Guatimala, and other places in Mexico. We went therefore to Count Leganez, to desire the recommendations he had promised us, which he gave us in the most affable manner.

We took a coach and departed from Mexico for Puebla, which was about twenty leagues off, on the twenty-fifth  
of

of October, where we arrived the next evening; we could not travel fast upon account of the excessive heat.

We gave our letters to the governor and to the magistrates to whom they were addressed; we were received by them very politely, and they gave us all the power of executing our affairs we could desire, which we finished very advantageously in five days; during which time Mr. Prepont and myself employed ourselves in visiting the town and its environs, which are as agreeable as curious.

Puebla



Puebla the capital of the province of los Angelos in New Spain, in the viceroyalty of Mexico and in the government of Flascala, is situated in North America, to the east of the city of Mexico. This town is in a very pretty valley, named Atlisca, about ten leagues distant from a very high mountain, the top of which is almost always covered with snow. There are two fountains in the town, one of which produces good water, the other bad. The air is very wholesome; the houses are well built of stone; the inside of them elegant, and the apartments well laid out; the streets are strait, spacious, and pretty, but they are not paved. There are many pretty pla-

ces in the town, and amongst the rest, one they call the public place. It has three sides built uniformly with piazzas, under which are shops stored with the richest commodities. The cathedral is on the open side of the square, and is an elegant piece of building ; it somewhat resembles that at Mexico ; it is gilt within and has seven pillars of each side. The choir is beautiful and elegant, it is adorned with twelve superb columns of marble, surrounded with fine lattices. The grand altar is very magnificent, there are twenty-four others in different parts of the cathedral ; the chapels are decorated with gilding and pictures ; there is a large vestry which is filled

filled with most superb ornaments, and a chamber in which they lock up the treasure and the most precious things. There is a door belonging to this cathedral, which conducts to the bishops palace and the seminary. This bishoprick is exceedingly large and valuable.

This place is very populous, and they carry on a very large woollen manufactory, especially in cloths; they likewise manufacture a considerable number of hats, both of which are much valued. There is likewise a most superb glass house and a mint, where a great part of the silver produced from the mines of Sacatecas is coined. There are several religious com-

52 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

munities occupied by Jesuits, Dominicans, Carmelites, &c. and four convents for women.

The suburbs of the town are very pretty, and there are several mineral springs; those towards the west are of a sulphureous quality, those toward the north of an aluminious one, and the springs on the east and south side are soft. There are around the town several spacious and beautiful gardens, which supply the town with all kinds of fruits, herbs and roots.

The land in this province is very fertile, producing sugar, cotton, corn, cocoa, &c.—it likewise produces large quantities  
of

of excellent fruit and several valuable kinds of wood. I never saw such fine sugar plantations any where, as in this country.

When Don Guzman had finished his affairs at Puebla, for it is proper to observe that Mr. Prepont and myself, never concerned ourselves in any part of commerce, which we left entirely to him, we departed for Saint Jago in Guatemala. We were three days going there, though but a small distance, upon account of several friends that Don Guzman called of in our rout.



As soon as we arrived at Saint Jago, we went to Don Pedro de Quevedos the governor general ; we gave him our letters of recommendation from the Count Leganez ; he received us very politely and offered us apartments in his palace, which we accepted. He was the only governor who did us that favor ? but he was a relation of Don Guzman's, and besides, had neither wife nor children.

Mr. Prepont and myself strolled about the town and neighbourhood to satisfy our curiosity, as we had done at Puebla, leaving business entirely to Don Guzman.

This

This town is situated in a very pretty valley, which is surrounded by mountains that are about a league asunder: it enlarges insensibly to the old town, which is about a league distant from the new, where we were. Near the old town are two volcanos, they are opposite to each other, with the old town between them. From the sides of the mountain on the south of the old town, there issues several streams of soft water, which unite and form a river; it afterwards meanders through the valley in a beautiful manner and turns several mills. Nothing can be more surprising than the volcano on the opposite side to this; the mountain is covered with cinders, stones and calcined

flints. There is always a noise like thunder to be heard near it. There issues from the top of it, flames and torrents of fire or lava, which infect the air very much with noxious qualities; it frequently occasions epidemical diseases, which carry off an infinite number of both sexes and of all ages every year. This town is very populous notwithstanding the frequent epidemical complaints; they reckon about six thousand families exclusive of the natives. There are some pretty streets in the town, the houses are well built, and there are some rich warehouses. The Dominicans have a very superb convent in the town; there are markets every day. There is a most magnificent cathedral

dral, which serves also as a church. There are several convents, but there are two in particular very pretty and contain a hundred religious each; but the church belonging to the convent of the Dominicans surpasses every other belonging to any of the convents in magnificence. There is before the altar a silver lamp so very heavy that it requires four men to move it; there is likewise a statue of the Virgin Mary in the same metal as large as Nature, and twelve lamps burning day and night before it. There is a garden belonging to the convent of Dominicans, in which there is a fountain supplied by twelve pipes, which throws the water into two very large basons at a

considerable distance, full of fish and water fowl. They have also a fruit and a kitchen garden, in the latter there is a canal four hundred yards in length, paved at the bottom, well stocked with fish, which serves them in case they have a scarcity. They are very rich, and their revenue amounts to more than forty-five thousand Ducats per annum.

There is a very considerable trade carried on in this town with the Peruvians. The revenue of the bishop of this place is immense and his diocese is of vast extent.

This town, which they call Saint Jago of Guatimala, is the capital of the province



vince of the same name, which is situated in New Spain in North America. This province is the most considerable of any in Mexico, as it comprehends twelve others. Its extent from the south east to the north west, is more than three hundred miles, but in a strait-line from east to west, it is not more than two hundred and forty. It is one hundred and twenty four leagues broad in its widest part; it is very fertile and abounds in sugar, cocoa cotton, corn and fruits of every kind. It produces several kinds of timber, and its meadows are very fine, as well as the large herds of cattle they feed.

The governor general of this province

60 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

and all it comprehends, is always dependant on the vice royalty of Mexico. The goods that are brought to this province from Europe, are by the way of the Bay of Honduras, and landed at a place called Puerto de Golfo Dolce, from whence they are brought by land to Saint Jago and the other towns of that province.

The air is unwholsome in this town from the excessive heat, the great dews, and the fumes of the volcanos I have before mentioned. This country is very rough and mountainous, there are many large rivers which contain plenty of fish, there are likewise a great number of crocodiles in them; they have great quantities

ties of rain between the months of May and September. There are a vast number of monstrous serpents, vipers and scorpions, but these reptiles are not so dangerous as a large hairy worm that is frequently found in those parts, the bare touch of which is certain death. There are likewise large quantities of musketos, hornets, wasps and bees. The honey of the last is excellent and the wax very good. There is said to be a liquor exude from a certain mountain in this country something like oil in appearance, which is a specefic for all kinds of wounds. Salt is very scarce, they have none but what they produce from salt water by the heat of fire. There are several veins of  
sulphur

## 62. VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

fulphur in the different lakes, and the meadows that are adjacent, fatten horses in a short time, though they are very poor when they are first turned in.

This province is separated from that of Suchitepeeo and Guasacapau by the river Michaova, which flows about four leagues from the town of Saint Jago. It arises from the midst of several high rocks, and passes into a cavern where there are an infinite number of parroquets and bats, these latter are very dangerous, and often destroy cattle by sucking their blood. They have even destroyed men in the same manner by fastening on them when they were asleep; and they are so very numerous,

rous, that the savages have been obliged to abandon their habitations that are adjacent upon account of the great losses they suffer in their cattle from them.

The savages that are every where diffused over these provinces are indolent, superstitious and sottish; but since the Spaniards have been their masters, they have forced them to embrace the Catholic religion, in appearance at least; it is very evident however, that fear is the cause of their practising it, for as soon as they are concealed from the public eye, they return to their idolatrous worship. Even the best of them have their good and bad omens, &c. There are some who  
adore



## 64 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

adore idols of wood and stone, and others who believe that their life depends upon that of some particular animal, upon which account they attend to and nurse it with the greatest care imaginable. When the monks endeavor to persuade them of the absurdity of such belief, they answer them by saying, that they have in their churches images of wood, stone, marble, and different metals, to which they even pay worship; and that for the most part they say that those they are designed to represent were evidently of the same opinion with themselves, since Saint Mark is represented with a bull, Saint John with an eagle, &c. The monks sometimes ask them what they believe, touching the  
in-

incarnation, redemption, resurrection, the eucharist, the trinity and other mysteries which are beyond the comprehension of even the most learned; they answer that nothing can be so fine, so grand, so marvellous, &c. but they believe nothing; how can it be expected that these savages who in general have sound understandings, should have great faith, whilst on the one hand they hear the ministers of the holy religion, preach against attachment to riches, which are perishable, and enforce humility, charity, the forgiving of injuries, &c. in short, every moral good; on the other, they behold even in those very ministers an unbounded ambition, which induces them to cross  
im-

## 66 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

immense oceans, and to go into strange lands, to get treasures that nature has denied their kingdom or climate.

On the twenty sixth of November 1732, we took our leave of Don Pedro de Quevedo, and departed for Antequera, the capital city of the province of Guiaca, situated in North America, and dependant upon New Spain. It is about twenty five leagues from Mexico. The streets of Antiquera are regular, and the houses well built : they have a considerable trade, especially in silks, and the city is very populous. The bishoprick bears the name of the province, and not that of the civ. and is very extensive. Its greatest extent

extent is between the provinces of Tlascala and Guatimala, which is reckoned more than a hundred leagues. The cathedral is very pretty and is near an open square, where they keep their markets. There is also a pretty seminary, two secular colleges, two convents for Dominicans, which are very rich, and several other religious communities. There are said to be twenty convents for Dominicans in this province independant of other religious houses, and more than a hundred towns and villages inhabited by the natives of the country; and they report that there are two hundred thousand of them who are tributary; they are of different nations, and each has a language peculiar to itself.

All

68 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

All these savages, to appearance, have embraced the Catholic religion.

The province of Guaiaca is very fertile; it produces corn, coffee, cocoa, maize, cotton, cochineal, and a prodigious quantity of mulberry trees, on which the silk-worms feed, and all kinds of fruit trees, herbs and roots; the pasturage is very good, and there are several rivers which abound with fish. There is plenty of game, but few reptiles, and the air is very wholesome. There are several mines of gold, silver, and chrystal; earthquakes and hurricanes are frequent in every part of this province.

The



The several rivers of this province all contain a considerable quantity of gold. The savages go to the brooks and rivers and search for gold spangles, where they continue in their searches till their provisions begin to fail them. They afterwards go and exchange them at market for those necessaries of life they stand in need of. With these they rest contented till they begin to fail, and then they return to their former employment, taking the remainder of their food with them. There are several mountains in this province, which are inhabited by savages, who live amongst the rocks, from whence it is impossible to draw them, and it would be dangerous to endeavour to force them.

them. There are the vestiges of several ancient castles, which the Mexicans had formerly built.

We continued only a few days in Antequera, as the governor was absent, and we departed on the tenth of December for Valladolid, the capital of the province of Mechoacan, which belongs to New Spain. This town lies in the latitude of 20 North; it is situated near a great lake, and is fifty leagues from Mexico. Immediately upon our arrival, we went to pay a visit to Don Joseph d'Acuenta, the governor of that province, to whom we gave the letter we had received from Count Leganez for him; he  
received

received us very politely, and offered us his service, if necessary. Valladolid is a large and rich city, the houses are well built and elegant within; the streets regular, paved and spacious; the warehouses are filled with all sorts of rich merchandize, and there is a great trade carried on in this city, especially in silks, amber, honey and wax. This province produces sugar, cotton, cassia, cochincal, corn and maize in abundance; with fruits, herbs and roots; the pasturage is very good, the cattle fine and their flesh excellent; there is likewise plenty of game, and the rivers abound with fish; in short, there is every article necessary for life. The air is very pure and healthful,  
there

there are some crocodiles, and but few venomous animals. The revenue of this diocese is very considerable, and the cathedral is a good piece of structure; there is a convent for Dominicans, and there are several other religious houses for both men and women.

The savages who inhabit this province are tall, well proportioned, active, expert, industrious, strong, robust and valiant; they are possessed of good sense and lively imaginations, and their language is very elegant; they make superb works with feathers of various colors, which are so much esteemed as to be presented to the king of Spain and the greatest

test nobles; they have all embraced the Christian religion, and are very good Catholics.

Having finished our affairs in this city, we departed on the twenty-first of September, on our return to Mexico, where we arrived on the twenty-fifth. We found Donna Elizabeth de Cardonna, Donna Torillas and M. Tarcilly, who had been waiting three days for our return; the latter informed us that the cause of Donna Elizabeth de Cardonna's journey, was to be informed by us of his birth and behaviour; we gave her a very favorable account of his conduct, and by report we said, he was of very good



## 74 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

extraction. That lady was charmed with our information, and made no further difficulty to give her consent to the marriage between her daughter and M. Tarcilly.

We went the next day to pay a visit to Count Leganez, who expressed the greatest pleasure at our return; and, addressing himself to Don Guzman, he asked him, if we proposed to depart soon. Don Guzman replied, that we should come in a few days to take our leave of him, and to return him thanks for his protection. He assured us that he should esteem himself very happy in any opportunity of obliging us; he behaved very politely

politely also to M. Tarcilly, and spoke of him in so favorable a manner to the ladies, that they withdrew perfectly happy; we afterwards returned to our inn, where we always ate at the same table till they departed for Vera Cruz.

As soon as they had left us, we began to think very seriously of preparing for our departure, Don John de Carveyra and M. Trainfort, gave us an account of all their operations, and we were very happy in our exchange, as we received gold in bars and dust, Spanish pistoles silver in wedges, piaftres, unpolished jewels, silks, cotton, cochineal, amber, wax and Spanish tobacco. We had only

76 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

a few trifling European commodities left; such as a few iron-ware goods, which we thought proper to keep, as we knew how to dispose of them more advantageously in the places where we proposed to traffic.

We therefore gave orders to take in water, wood, live cattle, fowls, herbs and roots; as for wine and spirits, we had plenty of both, especially of the latter, which we preserved for the savages we should treat with.

Mexico the capital city of the province of the same name, as also of both old and new Mexico, is situated in North America,

rica, in the latitude of 20, under the Torrid Zone. It is the most considerable; and a place of the greatest trade of any city in the New World; it is very large and very rich, the houses are built either with stone or brick, but not very high, upon account of the frequent earthquakes, seldom above three stories; they are well built, very commodious and pretty. In the inside, they are very elegant; the streets are spacious, two coaches may pass abreast in the narrowest, and in several of them five or six. It is very populous; and in my time there were supposed to be sixty thousand inhabitants of Spanish extraction, half of which kept their coaches. In general, the coaches

are very beautiful, and surpass in richness those made use of by ambassadors at their public entrance. I have seen several that have dazzled me by the reflection of the gold and jewels; and the horses are large and handsome. Luxury is there at a much greater height than ever it was among the Greeks or Romans; nor is it to be wondered at, as that country abounds in gold, silver and jewels. The warehouses are richly furnished, especially, the jeweller's, the lapidary's, the goldsmith's, and the watchmaker's, which are in a street called Plateria, adjoining to the palace; you may in that street at one single glance see in value several millions. There is another famous street, called

Saint



Saint Augustin, in which the silk merchants reside; but the prettiest and the longest street in Mexico, was that in which we lived; it took its name from an idol that was formerly worshipped in that country, which was an eagle of stone, and it was to be seen fixed up at the corner of the street in my time. There are several very pretty places in this city, and amongst others, the market place, which is very spacious; it is surrounded by piazzas, under which people may walk sheltered from the rain; under them there are warehouses belonging to the merchants, filled with the richest wares of every kind.

The viceroy's palace is built on the spot where formerly that of the kings of Mexico stood, and is undoubtedly one of the most magnificent in the world. About a quarter of a mile, from it, is the principal prison of the city, which is built of stone.

The cathedral may be said to be a finished piece of building, and is very much esteemed for the beauty of its architecture. It was begun by Cortez, after he had made a conquest of that empire, and was finished by Sebastian Ramires. Paul the third, about twenty-five years after the discovery of Mexico, made it an archbishop's see, with twelve bishopricks  
under

under it, which are those of Saint Jago, of Guatimala, Nicaragua, Puebla of los Angelos, Guadalajara, Valladolid, Antequera, Hascala, Yucatan, Vera-Paz, the Phillippines, Panuco and Chiapa.

There are reckoned to be also sixty other churches, besides those belonging to the different convents of Dominicans, Jesuits, &c. Gold shines every where in them; marble, agate, granate, Brasil and odoriferous woods, are the most trifling of their decorations, their ornaments are very superb, the crosses, lamps, chandeliers, &c. are either of gold or silver, enriched with jewels. There are tables of massy gold before the altar,

## 82 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

some of them, enriched with diamonds, rubies and other precious stones, the least of which they say is worth thirty thousand ducats. The archbishop possesses an immense revenue, and the canons, prebends, &c. in proportion.

There is a famous university in that city, in which all the liberal sciences are taught.

The men are tall and well proportioned, and the women fair and pretty, very sensible and sprightly; their acquaintance would be extremely agreeable, if their husbands were less jealous.

This

This city is built upon the banks of a lake which is called Mexico, and is of very great extent; one part of it contains soft water, which is always smooth and calm, is very good to drink, and contains great plenty of fish; the other part has a flux and reflux, the water is both salt and bitter, and contains no fish. The soft water is higher than the salt, the former is about twenty seven leagues round, and the latter twenty eight; together they are fifty five leagues in circumference. That part of the lake which contains the salt water, produces large quantities of salt, which they make great advantage of from the consumption of it in that province and the Phillippine Isles.



## 84 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

It is said that there were several towns on the borders of the lake formerly, which contained more than three hundred thousand families, Spaniards and natives together, but now there are not any thing like that number. The air is very wholesome, and the climate temperate; heat and cold reign alternately, tho' the latter is always in a moderate degree. The winds and the sun correct the great moisture arising from the lake, on which the city stands.

The province of Mexico, which is the first and principal of all, which compose the viceroyalty of Mexico; it bounded on the north by the province of Guaxaca;  
on

on the east by Guaxaca and Tlascala; on the south by the South Sea or Great Pacific Ocean, and on the west by the province of Mechoacan, and contains fifteen principal cities and towns.

The other provinces or governments which are dependant upon that viceroyalty in old Mexico, are twenty four in number. All these provinces compose old Mexico, properly so called, or new Spain. It is bounded on the north by New Mexico, on the east by the Gulph of Mexico and the North Sea, on the south by South America and the South Sea, and on the west by the South Sea or Pacific Ocean.

The

## 86 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

The provinces and governments of this viceroyalty, comprehend a tract of country of more than five hundred leagues. The principal government, or the viceroyship, is generally conferred upon some great nobleman, whose power is very extensive in that office. He makes laws, declarations, ordinances, &c. he terminates the suits between different people or provinces, and his decree is generally established, if the delinquents should appear to the king himself. His salary is a hundred thousand ducats, and he receives very large presents besides from the governors of the other provinces, whose continuance in those departments are dependant entirely upon his will. He has  
other

other privileges which bring him immense sums, his revenue, in short, is so very great, that he is never continued longer than five years in that station.

Besides the viceroy, there are two presidents, six counsellors and a Solicitor General, who have very considerable appointments, and act conjunctly with the viceroy in determining all civil and criminal affairs. These officers commonly act according to the opinion of the viceroy, whom they dare not contradict, as their places are in his disposal.

This great tract of country is at present inhabited by Spaniards, and the natives, who

## 88 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

who are of different colors in different parts.

Mexico is very different now to what it was when first conquered by Cortez, when it was inhabited only by the natives of the country. The ancient inhabitants of Mexico, were formerly divided into seven districts, the government of which was Aristocratical for many ages, but at length they united in electing a king. The ninth of that kingdom reigned when Cortez arrived, and lost his life in the defence of his country; the tenth soon lost the city of Mexico, and with it his royalty; he was the last king of Mexico. It is easy to judge of the immense riches  
of



of that city, by the grandeur and splendor of the palace where the king used to reside, which took up a vast space of ground: by the great number of mines of gold, silver and jewels that were every where diffused over the empire; from the number of temples in the city, which were most elegantly finished, and by the inestimable value of their idols. In short, every thing displayed the greatest riches and magnificence.

All this powerful empire was subject to the king of Mexico, and it was governed by his ministers, or by chiefs of the people, who were tributary to him. This country

country was then much more populous, than it is at present.

Thus I have given a short history of the richest part of the known world, those who are willing to search more minutely into particulars, must read the different histories of it.

After having ordered our vessels to be careened and got ready for sea, we went and took our leave of the viceroy, who gave a letter to Don Guzman for his uncle, and wished us a good voyage.

We departed the next day for Acapulco, and went aboard two days after our arrival;

arrival; we weighed the next day, the fifteenth of January, 1733, and sailed out of the port of Acapulco, which is a very good one, capable of containing a hundred vessels, and they carry on a very great trade in the town.

When we were near separating from Don Guzman, we sent him his Spanish sailors from aboard of us, and received our Frenchmen again. Don Guzman supped with us the last night, and before he left us; I desired him to take a letter for me to Donna Elvira de Cuzma, which he promised to deliver into her own hands. After he had taken his leave of us, he returned aboard his bark and stood for  
the

92 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

the Havannah, whilst we held our course for Louifiana.

During our passage along the coast we had several canoes full of savages that came to treat with us, with whom we exchanged our iron-wares for spangles of gold and gold dust, which they brought us; this commerce delayed our passage much longer than we expected; but at length we arrived at Fort Louis in Louifiana, which was at that time a principal establishment of ours.

We went directly ashore to pay the governor a visit, and to desire permission to hire a storehouse for the more convenient

nient sale of our goods, which he readily consented to ; we therefore sent ashore the next and the following days, several casks of spirits, our pipes, tobacco, and the remainder of our iron wares. As the sale was to be entirely amongst the savages, we left every thing to M. B\*\*\* and Mr. Trainfort ; the former had not been long returned from Louisiana, and the latter had made several voyages there, he knew the place and country exceedingly well, and perfectly understood the language and customs of the savages ; therefore we thought we could not do better than place every thing in their hands, which we had no reason



94 - VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

reason to be sorry for, as they procured us great profits.

Mr. Prepont and myself determined to satisfy the desire we had of seeing the different parts of the country, we therefore left Fort Louis, and went first to visit the countries between the river Mississippi and the river Acauses; they are beautiful, fertile, and inhabited by different nations of savages.

We had determined to push our journey further within the country, but Mr. Prepont was attacked with a disease, which obliged us to return to Fort Louis. As soon as we arrived, I sent for a surgeon,

geon, who, after asking him some questions, and attending to his complaints, declared his case to be an obstruction in the liver. He prescribed him some medicines, ordered him to a strict regimen, and desired him to keep his room till he was perfectly cured. That good man submitted to the orders with very great reluctance, it was with the utmost difficulty I could persuade him, though I promised to be always near and inform him very minutely of every thing that happened.

Fort Louis is situated on the west side of the Bay of Mobile, into which three large rivers empty themselves, the banks  
of

of which are inhabited by different nations of savages; and among the rest, the Mobillians, who take their name from the river Mobile, which is nine leagues north of the Isle Dauphine. This river is sixty-two leagues distant from the Mississippi, and takes its rise in the mountains which confine the kingdom of the Illinois.

Louisiana comprehends some parts of Florida, and is a very large tract of country situated in North America, at the bottom of the Gulph of Mexico. It is bounded on the east by Florida and Carolina, on the north east by Virginia and Canada; the other boundaries are not perfectly established.

This

This country is every where filled with a prodigious number of savages of different nations, who live along the banks of the rivers, which are innumerable. The Mississippi is one of the largest rivers in America, it is navigable for five hundred leagues from its mouth. It takes its rise from the top of a little hill, in the country, inhabited by the savages, called Issates, and runs seven hundred leagues before it discharges itself into the Gulph of Mexico. Its origin is in the latitude of 50, its mouth in the latitude of 22, and in its course receives an infinite number of other rivers.

This river and all that discharge themselves into it, are stocked with all kinds of excellent fish, and there are in different parts, salmon, shad, thornback, smelts, turbot, carp, pike, roach, whittings, lampreys, sturgeon, trout, eels, mullets, &c. They have many different kinds of white fish of exquisite taste, and abundance of shell fish, oysters, crabs and cray fish; and there are great numbers of otters and crocodiles, which latter very much resemble, and are as dangerous as those of the river Nile in Ægypt.

Some of the nations that inhabit the banks, are very numerous and powerful;



ful; this river is considered as the key, not only to Louisiana, Florida, Carolina, Virginia, &c. but likewise to all Canada and other countries, from the many large rivers that fall into it from different countries, and is now, as well as almost all the country north of it, in the possession of the English, since the last war.

The country in general, which is called Louisiana, is almost uninhabited and uncultivated near the sea, but upon advancing farther into the country, it is very beautiful; there are spacious plains and meadows, with large forests of trees, that contain wood fit for every purpose. There are abundance of dere, hares,

## 100 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

rabbits, and other animals fit for food, in every part of the country. There are also a great number of partridges, quails, wood-cocks, snipes, plover, teal, ducks, &c. There are fruit trees every where dispersed over the country, such as oranges, citron, figs, lemons, &c. The land in general is tolerably fertile, and produces Indian corn, &c. with great plenty of grafs. The cattle are in general very fat, and as good tasted as any in Europe.

During the time that I passed at Fort Louis, Mr. B\*\*\* introduced me to an Englishman, who lived at Albermarle, the capital of the province of the same name in North Carolina. Mr. Leach,

(for

(for that was his name) was a very amiable man; the bad state of his affairs had obliged him to leave his own country, to endeavor to recover himself by trade, with the slender remains of a fortune, part of which he had squandered away in play, and by his too great good nature, he had succeeded very well. He was then about forty years of age, and had been about twelve years in Carolina; about four years before I knew him he had married the daughter of a store-keeper, who lived at Fort Louis; and in consequence of his wife's father's death, had been obliged to come to Fort Louis to recover his effects, in right of his wife. I connected myself very intimately with him, as his conversation

was very agreeable, and contributed in some measure to dissipate the grief I felt for the sickness of Mr. Prepont, whose complaint seemed rather to increase than diminish.

Soon after the commencement of my intimacy with Mr. Leach, he informed me that he had terminated his affairs, and should return immediately to Carolina, where he strongly pressed me and Mr. B\*\*\* to go with him, to spend a few weeks. The strict regimen Mr. Prepont was obliged to observe, which he would not comply with unless I was always with him, and the gratitude I owed him, prevented my acceptance of the invitation,

tation, which would have been highly agreeable to me, but I engaged Mr. Prepout to permit Mr. B\*\*\* to go, notwithstanding his absence would be a great hindrance to our affairs; but he was not long absent, for we were surprised to see him return in as short a time as he could have gone there and back again. He informed us, that upon their arrival at Albermarle, Mr. Leach found his wife in great danger from a miscarriage, and that in two days afterwards she died, which occasioned him to return immediately.

Carolina extends from the thirty first, to the thirty sixth degree of northern latitude, and is divided into two parts, North



and South Carolina. It is bounded on the north by Virginia, on the south by Georgia, on the east by the Ocean, and on the west by Louisiana. The land of that country is better and more fertile than either that of Florida or Louisiana; it produces rice, cotton, all sorts of corn, herbs and roots. The fruits of Europe are very common, their peaches, nectarines apricots, prunes, pears and apples, are of a most exquisite taste, and far superior to those of Europe. They have timber growing in different parts of the province fit for every use, and some shrubs that possess very salutary properties. There are vast swarms of bees in the woods,

woods, whose honey exceeds every other kind in flavor.

There are a great many rivers in Carolina, which contain great quantities of fine fish, and the meadows adjacent to the rivers are remarkably fine; their cattle are large, and in great plenty; and game is every where very plentiful throughout the country.

The air is pure and wholesome, and the country very well peopled; at that time, according to computation, as Mr. Leach informed me, and who gave me the above account, there were between fifteen and sixteen thousand inhabitants, besides natives and slaves.

106 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

A few days after Mr. B\*\*\*'s return, he permitted me to go shares with him in the purchase of two hundred weight of fine old Virginia tobacco, and I wish'd I could have bought more at the same price, as the profits arising from the sale of it were sure to be great.

We had now been almost three months at Fort Louis, and Mr. Prepont had been two in the observance of a strict regimen, without percieving the least good effects from it; he had a continual slow fever, and was very evidently much upon the decline. The surgeon who attended him, began to lose his hopes, and advised him to depart as soon as possible

from

from Louisiana; he said that the air did not agree with him, and that change of climate would be much more efficacious in restoring him to his health, than all he could do for him: in consequence of this advice, Mr. Prepont determined to go to Quebec, at the beginning of June, and finish his business there during the summer season, and to sail from thence to France, where he proposed continuing till the perfect recovery of his health. He therefore gave Mr. Trainfort orders to finish his commerce, which had been very profitable, and to have every thing in readiness to depart precisely at the time fixed.

Some days afterwards Mr. Trainfort

brought a young man to us, who having been informed that we were to depart for Canada in a very short time, and from thence to Nantes in France, had desired the lieutenant to present him to Mr. Prepont, that he might beg of that merchant a passage in his vessel to France, for which, when he made the demand, he told him he could not pay him a single doit, as he was not worth a farthing in the world at that time, having been robbed of his all by the greatest misfortunes. As he appeared much dejected at the frowns of fortune, we desired him to gie us his history, if it would not too much affect him: which he began in the following words.

the word

to 7

I



I was born at Montauban, of a honest family, named Caluzet. The cause of my misfortunes was my refusing at fifteen years of age, to consent to a marriage that my father proposed to me, which was a great match for me. My refusal, notwithstanding it gave him great uneasiness, did not affect his behavior to me at first: He spoke to several of his friends, to desire them to mention the advantages that would result from such an union to to myself, but finding that I was very averse to it, he determined to watch all my actions. By that means he discovered that I had an inclination for the daughter of a peruke-maker that lived in the neighborhood, who, notwithstanding  
her

## 110 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

her being young and pretty, he considered as a very improper match for me. He went to her father, and desired him not to permit me to come into his house, and ordered me never more to set my foot within the doors; to the reproaches he made me upon account of my disobedience, he added the most terrible menaces, if I continued to persist in my former conduct which he would most certainly have put in execution, if I had not taken the utmost precaution to prevent it. I pretended to yeild to his desires, and obtained a months delay before I absolutely consented, upon conditions that during that time, I went every day to visit the lady he designed from my wife, and that I should

should never more visit my former mistress. He hoped that by degrees I should feel a passion for the lady he had proposed, and flattered himself, that as he had absolutely forbid me the sight of the woman I really loved, that I should forget her very soon; but he deceived himself, for hearing that a fleet was fitting out at Rochelle for Louisiana, I determined to go there, and engage my mistress to go with me. I made her the proposal at the house of one of my friends, which I had fixed on as the place of rendezvous; she accepted it with joy, and we agreed to depart together on the Sunday following, which seemed a day the best calculated for our flight, and the design

I had

## 112 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

I had formed, as in the evening my father constantly went to a garden, that he had about a league from the town, where he always had a supper on that night. My too complaisant friend engaged to procure two trunks to put the things in, which we should have occasion for, which we proposed bringing off by little at a time. The day being arrived, as soon as my father set off for the country, I broke open a bureau, wherein he kept his money, and took out two hundred Louis D'Ors, and flew to join my dulcinea, who waited for me. We got into a coach that my friend had hired for us, and departed immediately for Rochelle. The day after our arrival at that place, had I we

we presented ourselves before the Commissary, who registered us, and gave us an order to one of the captains to receive us aboard, and we sailed three days afterwards for Louisiana.

I soon had reason enough to repent of the action I had been guilty of, for a creature who was totally undeserving of my attachment. I surpris'd her one day by accident with the purser, in an attitude that left me no room to doubt of the present she had made me; I took the liberty of reproaching her for her infidelity in the severest terms, to which she paid very little attention, but called the purser, who had just before left her, to take



## 114 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

take her part; he went instantly and lodged complaints against me, that unfortunately for me was too much attended too, for without the officer ever asking me what I had to say for myself, I was ordered to be lashed to the gang-way, and receive thirty strokes with a cat-o'-nine-tails upon my back, which was performed in the face of the whole crew, to whose taunts, hisses and reproaches, I was exposed for an hour afterwards. Enraged at such treatment, which I received in sight of my mistress, who did not seem in the least affected with it, I resolved to have my revenge when I came ashore, but providence happily prevented me; about fifteen days before our arrival at Louisiana, my perfidious

fidious wife (for I had married her before we sailed) fell dangerously ill, and died in a few days afterwards in the most violent agonies.

I had lived in this country near a year without ever finding an opportunity of returning to France, which I fully determined, when one day four Frenchmen of my acquaintance asked me to accompany them in the chace, which they said would afford me excellent diversion. As I had nothing better to do, and was glad of any thing that promised to relieve my uneasiness and distress, I accepted of their proposal. Our sport and success was very great till the sixth day, when

we

we met with fifteen Chicacaw Indians, who were also hunting. A dispute arose between them and us about a buffalo that had been killed, which each party claimed. If we had been more prudent and less warm, we should not have suffered the misfortune we did; but we were too rash and reckoned a little too much upon our valor and address, therefore without any reflection we engaged them; we seven of the savages, and they killed three of my companions, so that we were reduced to two against eight, which obliged us to avoid a certain death, to surrender ourselves to the barbarians; who, contented with the skins of the beasts we had killed, together with those they

they had taken, abandoned the chace and conducted us to the village.

I fell to the lot of an old man and his three sons, who took me with them into their hut, (whilst my companion went with the other four) where I was well fed for more than six months. About the expiration of that time, all the family of my master, assembled themselves at his house, where after a prelude of a thousand different postures, which testified their joy, and were as ridiculous as indecent, they stripped me naked, and instead of my own cloaths they fastened several pieces of different colored silks about me, and put upon my head a cap

com.

## 118 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

composed of feathers of the gayest colors. In this condition, the savages conducted me to a meadow near the side of a wood, where they fastened me to a stake, founding the most dreadful instruments, and sending forth the most dreadful yells and cries. By the side of the post to which I was bound, there was a large pile of wood lighted up, which they undoubtedly intended to roast me before, and afterwards eat me, as they had my companion some few days before; but at the moment my executioner was going to give me the fatal stroke with a club for that purpose, the grand-daughter of my master, who was named Aoua, about sixteen years of age, entered the circle  
of



of savages who were sitting around me on their haunches, making the most hideous noises; she threw herself at the feet of her grandfather and demanded my pardon, which, according to the customs of that nation, must be granted me at her intercession, upon condition that I consented to marry her. She came immediately afterwards to me, to make me the proposal. I was obliged to give an immediate answer, and in the circumstances I was in at that time, I did not think it necessary to hesitate a moment to give my consent to the union, as being forced, it could not engage me in the least before God: besides the girl was very pretty, and

and I saw no other means of preserving my life.

As soon as I had consented, Aoua herself took off the bandages that confined my arms, tore off the pieces of silk that were fastened upon me, and instead of them tied a piece of cloth round my loins, which she had brought with her for that purpose, and instead of the bonnet of feathers, she put a garland on my head, composed of branches of trees, interwoven with flowers. We afterwards returned to the hut where I had before lived, the savages sounding their instruments and yelling as before, where a feast was provided for our wedding; which was to be

be continued three days, according to the  
 customs of those people. I continued  
 with them near three years, and had two  
 boys by my wife, both which I baptised,  
 and they are still alive. I was so narrow-  
 ly watched, that notwithstanding the  
 great desire I had to be at liberty, I could  
 never find an opportunity to escape.  
 Two of my wifes uncles engaged me one  
 day to accompany them a hunting; I  
 accepted the proposal with the greatest  
 pleasure, as I hoped by that means to  
 find an opportunity of escaping. I took  
 with me a large case knife, and near two  
 quarts of brandy, which had been resto-  
 red me since my marriage, which I put  
 up in a calabash and set out for the chase.

The third day in the evening we found ourselves exceedingly fatigued; I proposed to my companions that we should repose ourselves, I invited them at the same time to drink some of the brandy, which I knew they loved exceedingly, they took my calabash with joy and drank very plentifully. They immediately fell asleep, and as soon as I could stir without fear of disturbing them, I got up and plunged my knife into each of their hearts and killed them on the spot. I immediately set off, not knowing which way to go for safety; at length, after pursuing my rout for five nights and days, I happily arrived at this place from whence I hope to return to France, if you Sir (addressing himself

to Mr. Prepont) will be so charitable as to give me my passage.

Mr. Prepont kept the unfortunate wretch, who was almost naked, to dinner with him; the punishment he had undergone for his indiscretions, and his repentance, were sufficient to excite the compassion of my friend, who ordered Mr. Trainfort to take care that he was clothed, and to provide every thing for him till the time of our departure.

The savages who inhabit Louisiana, are in general well made, tall, strong, robust, expert, good hunters, and very swift in their running. Their color is



olive and their figure would not be disagreeable, if they did not take pains to make it so from their birth; it is reckoned a mark of beauty amongst them not to have any part of the face higher than another, they endeavour to flatten it by fixing boards upon the children's foreheads: they likewise bore their ears, nose and lips. It would be difficult to say what their religion is, as they adore no deity.

Having finished our affairs at Fort Louis, we embarked on the fifth of June and sailed for Canada. After a safe passage of twenty one days, we anchored in the port of Tadoussac, the capital of a province of the same name, situated in  
in

in 48—30° north latitude, upon the river Saint Laurence about forty-four leagues from the mouth of it, where it receives the river Saquenay, which communicates its name to one of the provinces of Canada. As that river bore the character of being very dangerous, we resolved to leave our vessel at that port, in preference to any other, as it was a very good one, and well calculated for our commerce with the savages. We left Mr. B\*\*\*, Mr. Trainfort and Mr. Cahuzet to treat with the Indians, whilst Mr. Prepont and myself pursued our rout to Quebec, where our first care after our arrival was to pay a visit to the Mar-

quis de Beauharnois who was at that time governor general of New France.

We lodged with the widow of a merchant named Veron, who lived in the Low Town, which we preferred, as the air better agreed with Mr. Prepont than that of the High Town; besides it was more convenient for trade. Our landlady accomodated us with a storehouse, where we ordered some of our merchandize from our vessel, that we might exchange it. Our lading consisted of sugar, cotton, indigo, coffee, cassia, cocoa, Spanish tobacco, &c. which we wanted to exchange for furs and skins of all kinds. As it was necessary that the

lieutenant

lieutenant and Mr. B\*\*\* should continue at Tadouffac; I engaged Mr. Prepont to order Mr. Cahuzet to come to us to guard the storehouse; accordingly Mr. Prepont ordered his lieutenant to send him at the time he sent the goods.

One day that we had invited our hostess to dine with us, they came to inform her whilst at table, that two Jesuits were come to visit her. Mr. Prepont would not permit her to go out to receive them, but engaged them to come to her. As soon as they entered, I recollected one of them to have studied with me at Paris, and we were very happy in our unexpected interview. He informed me that he had

been sent on a mission to New France, that Quebec was not the place he lived at, but Missilimakinac, where he desired me very much to go and pass a few weeks with him, as he was to return in a few days. As he pressed me very much, Mr. Prepont joined his intreaties that I should go with him, especially as he promised to return with me.

We went the next day up into the High Town to pay a visit to father Fournier (the name of my acquaintance) and his friend, who shewed us the house they had there. It was very pretty, built with stone, and beautifully situated; and their church, although small, was extremely



tremely pretty, and the ceiling adorned with several striking figures. The garden was spacious, and well laid out; it was terminated by a large high wood, through which there was a most beautiful avenue. They had also a college, where there were classes for humanity, philosophy and theology. When we took our leave of the holy fathers, I repeated my promise to accompany him to Missilimakinac.

Upon our return, we found Mr. Cahuzet, who had arrived during our absence; we informed him of the motive of our sending for him, and accordingly put a bed for him in the storehouse, as

130 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

there were no more rooms unoccupied in the house.

Some days afterwards, father Fournier sent me word, that he should depart the next day, and desired me to be ready by nine o'clock in the morning, at which time he would call of me; accordingly we set out the next morning for Miffilimakinac.

We arrived there in two days, and I met with a very hearty welcome from the holy fathers, which I believe was owing in a great measure to some bottles of Maderia and other sorts of wine that I made them a present of. The holy fathers

fathers were very open with me; and did not scruple complaining of the hardness of their fate, and the inefficacy of their endeavours to convert the Indians, who they said were meer brutes, and that except a few baptisms, their efforts had been useless. I continued twelve days with them, and though they endeavoured to procure me every amusement in their power, my uneasiness for the state of Mr. Prepont would not permit me to enjoy them; therefore I desired to take my leave of them, and to return to Quebec, but insisted upon father Fournier not accompanying me, as his complaisance had led him to promise. They consented with reluctance to my desire, and

gave me a letter to deliver to their bishop at Québec, with a particular desire that I would give it into his own hands; therefore I took my leave of them in the evening, and set out on my return the next day.

Missilimakinac is an isthmus in New France, in North America; it is about one hundred and thirty leagues long, and twenty two wide. It is a point of land situated on the north of the straits, through which the lake of the Hurons empties itself into that of the Hurons. This straight is about three leagues in length and one in breadth. It is situated in the latitude of  $45-35^{\circ}$ , and is about half a league

league from the mouth of Lake Hinois. This is reckoned an important post, and the hunters higher up the country bring their skins and furs down to this place to barter with the merchants who reside there. Lake Hinois contains vast quantities of excellent fish, superior in goodness to any in that part of the world, and the trout are remarkably large and fine. This plenty is of great service to the hunters, who without this resource would be unable to pursue the chase to any advantage. The adjacent country is very fertile and agreeable, and produces various kinds of herbs, roots and fruits, especially Indian corn, which they sell very dear when they have had bad success in the chase, in  
order



order to pay for the goods they want to purchase of the merchants.

Upon my arrival at Quebec, I found Mr. Prepont very uneasy at my absence. He informed me, that since my departure he had exchanged the greatest part of our merchandize for some remarkable fine furs, which he expected to sell very advantageously in France. He told me also, that he was exceedingly pleased with Mr. Cahuzet, who had been of infinite service to him, having given him the greatest proofs of his zeal, integrity and understanding, for which he said he intended making him a handsome acknowledgment.

knowledgment as soon as he arrived at Nantes.

Some days after my return, I waited of the Bishop to deliver the packet intrusted to my care by the Jesuits at Missimakinac. The pious and worthy prelate received me in the most polite manner, and engaged me to come to see him sometimes during my stay at Quebec, and he desired that I would carry him some dispatches to France, when I sailed. Upon my return home, I found Mr. B\*\*\* arrived from Tadoussac. He informed us that they had parted with all the mercantile wares, except a few ironmonger's goods, and a little brandy, which

## 136 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

which would scarce be sufficient for our voyage to France: that the commerce Mr. Trainfort and himself had made with the savages was entirely finished, and they had got a very good assortment of furs. Mr. B\*\*\* who had been exceedingly useful in trafficking for us, had not, however, forgot himself, for he had increased his capital since our departure from Fort Royal to four times the value it was at that time. His presence being no longer necessary at Tadoussac, we engaged him to continue along with us, and as we were confined for room, we proposed placing a bed for him by the side of Mr. Cahuzet's, in the storehouse, which he accepted with pleasure, as it would have  
been

been very difficult to have hired a chamber, and he must have paid a great price for it.

As things were so near a conclusion, Mr. Prepont wrote to Mr. Trainfort to desire him to have the ship ready for sea at the beginning of October, the time which he had fixed for sailing to France; and desired him to take in wood and water, and whatever we might have occasion for during our voyage.

During the fifteen days that followed the arrival of Mr. B\*\*\*, we exchanged the remainder of our goods for furs, and sent them by Mr. Cahuzet to Mr. Trainfort.

fort. As we had nothing more to do, and there was near a month to elapse before our vessel would be ready for sea, Mr. Prepont and myself proposed to go during that vacation to Montreal; therefore we charged Mr. B\*\*\* with the storehouse, and taking care of our affairs, and we departed on the ninth of September for that place, where we arrived on the twelfth.

We went to lodge at a merchant's, named Dufrene, brother to Mrs. Veron, our hostess at Quebec, who had given us letters to him. He received us very courteously, feasted us in a sumptuous manner during the time we continued  
with



with him, and walked every where with us.

Montreal the capital of an island of the same name, which is about eleven leagues long and five wide, is situated in the latitude of  $45-30^{\circ}$ , upon the river Saint Lawrence, about sixty leagues above Quebec. It is a place of great trade, very pretty and well fortified. The air is very wholesome, and the country fertile; but its chief trade is in the skins of beavers, bears, martens, foxes. &c.

We had not been there more than eight days, when the symptoms of Mr. Prepont's disease seemed to increase, which

which obliged us to return to Quebec, where we arrived on the twenty-fifth of September. Our ship arrived the same evening in the port of Quebec, and we sent the remainder of our furs aboard of her the next day, and a quintal of the turpentine of Canada, which I had purchased upon my own account.

As nothing detained us longer at Quebec, we went to take our leave of the Governor, the Bishop, and the Jesuits, who gave us their dispatches for France; during the two or three days that we continued longer at Quebec, we settled our affairs, and embarked on the tenth of October,

October, 1733, and sailed immediately for Nantes.

Quebec the capital town of New France, is situated in North America, in the latitude of  $46-45^{\circ}$  upon the left shore of the river Saint Lawrence. Its situation for trade is exceedingly advantageous, it is very beautiful, and both the port and the road are very good.

The city is divided into two parts, called the Higher and the Lower Towns. The former contains the fort and the castle, which is on the side of a very steep hill, and although irregular, is a very good piece of fortification; the governor's

nor's palace is likewise in the High Town, and is near one hundred and thirty feet long, before it is a grand terras which commands a view of the Low Town and river. The palace is very elegant, and is well built with stones. There are two batteries of cannon, one in front and the other behind it, which command the Lower Town and river. At a small distance from the palace is a high hill which is called Cape Diamond, on the top of which there is a redoubt which overlooks the fort, the High Town and all parts adjacent.

The bishop's palace is also in the High Town. It is a good stone building,  
has

has wings on each side and a chapel about sixty feet long behind it. The cathedral is a large magnificent piece of structure, and near it is a seminary founded by one of the former bishops of Quebec; the chapel belonging to it has some very fine valuable pieces of sculpture in it, and the altar-piece is remarkably superb. The different sects of the Catholic religion had most of them houses in the High Town.

The second, or the Low Town, is situated upon the banks of the river at the foot of a high mountain; the houses are in general well built of stone as hard as marble; there is a good road leads from



from the Low to the High Town, and as it is winding, carriages ascend it without any great difficulty.

The trade carried on in this place is very considerable; there are a great many merchants established in the town, and it is very populous. The extreme cold is not felt so sensibly in the Low as in the High Town; but the latter enjoys a coolness of air in the summer that makes it infinitely more agreeable than the Low Town, where they have no such cool breezes. The water they use is very good and limpid.

The

The carriages they use in the winter, as well in the town as in the country, are sledges, principally drawn by horses, which are insensible of the extremity of the cold, and are indefatigable.

Canada is a very large tract of country situated in North America, the bounds of which are not at present precisely ascertained; the best in my own opinion is where they say, that it is confined on the north by the country of Labrador, on the east by New England, by the sea on the south, and New Mexico on the west.

This country has in every part of it woods, lakes and rivers, which make the cold very severe during six months of the year at least. Those lands that are cleared and cultivated are very fertile, and produce great plenty of corn, which they sow in May and reap at the end of August. Their roots and herbs are very good, and there are plenty of fruit-trees which bear exceeding fine fruit of various kinds; the vines and tobacco seem to be in great perfection in that country. All the woods are filled with animals of different kinds, the skins of which are the principal trade of the people of that climate. There is also abundance of game of every kind, and the rivers and lakes

lakes every where dispersed throughout the whole country are stocked with vast quantities of fish of an exquisite flavour. The trees that form the woods grow to a very large size, and produce timber fit for every purpose, many of them are possessed of salutiferous properties, and yield balsams which possess marvellous qualities. Cattle and fowls are very common, and are good tasted.

Canada is divided into two parts, the east and west; the former of which retains the name of Canada, whilst the latter is called Louisiana. Before last war, Louisiana belonged to the French, but every

148 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

part of Canada now belongs to the English.

The whole country contains immense forests filled with large oaks, ash, elm, maple and other trees, some of which are peculiar to that country. Vines grow frequently wild in different parts, but the wine that is made from the grapes is always thick and sweet.

There is an incredible quantity of game in every part, such as deer, wild bulls and cows, hares, rabbits, wolves, foxes, &c. Crocodiles are also very common and dangerous, and resemble those of the Nile in every thing. There are  
likewise



likewise vultures, which are carnivorous birds, and destroy a prodigious quantity of game; eagles, hawks of every kind, pigeons, plover, all kinds of water fowls, parroquets, &c. &c.

The northern part of Canada produces birch very different from ours both in size and properties, and the bark serves the Indians for canoes; it likewise produces firs of several kinds, cedars of both sorts, &c. There is in this part of Canada a much greater number of wild beasts than in the other, such as elks, martens, white foxes, black and white bears; these latter are very fierce and will swim for several leagues without ha-

ving occasion to rest themselves ; frequently they attack the canoes and overfet them, and tear the Indians in pieces, this species live chiefly upon fish, and are always near the water fide ; there are likewise various other kinds of animals, fuch as the flying fquirrels, &c.

There is alfo a great quantity of game in the northern part, fuch as ducks, geefe ; teal, bufards, partridges of three kinds, black, red, and white, quails, woodcocks, fnipes, cormorants, plovers, ortolans and various other kinds,

There are but few reptiles in Canada, and the afp is I believe the only dangerous one.

Befides

Besides the river Mississippi and Saint Lawrence there are several lakes, of which the principal are Lake Superior, or Tracy, which is about six hundred leagues in circumference, that of the Hinois, which is about five hundred; that of the Hurons, which is three hundred; that of Erry, which is one hundred and forty in length, and Lake Frontenac, which is ninety; besides these lakes there are an infinite number of rivers, the principal of which is that of Niagara, in the country of the Iroquois; it takes its rise from Lake Erry, and after running fifteen leagues, it empties itself into Lake Frontenac; about four leagues before it enters Lake Frontenac,

it has a fall greater than that of any other river in the known world; it is so very rapid in its course above the fall, that beasts which endeavor to swim across it, in order to feed on the opposite shore, and birds which often alight in it, deprived by the strength of the current from rising again, are all carried down by the velocity of the stream, and are hurled down a precipice six hundred feet in height. Even fish are not capable of resisting the force of the water, and are frequently found dead, dashed in pieces below. The noise that the water makes in falling is frightful; it surpasses that of the loudest thunder, and

and may be heard at the distance of eighteen leagues.

The river of Saint Lawrence, in its course, forms several islands; it abounds with fish in every part of it, and amongst the rest, a great number of grampus's, which are a species of the whale, but not so large, and blacker; there are likewise a great number of sea-cows; which have teeth eight or nine inches long and two thick, they are white, and are as beautiful as elephants teeth, which make them much esteemed.

The lakes and rivers which discharge themselves into this, are likewise full



154 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

of fish, such as sturgeons, salmons, trouts, mullets, carps, eels, &c. the lake fish are most esteemed.

The inferior part of the country, and the banks of all the lakes and rivers are inhabited by great number of savages of different nations, who are of almost as many dispositions. All of them in general are great hunters, it is the only exercise they like, and indeed is the only means they have for subsistence. Some of them travel three or four hundred leagues with the skins of the animals they have killed, in order to dispose of them to the best advantage. Some of them are exceedingly active and labor much harder

harder than others; they sometimes assemble together at the beginning of May, to the number of two thousand, and embark in their canoes and paddle down to Fort Nelson, which is the greatest market; their canoes are so light that they will paddle and row together thirty leagues in a day, for they have no seats in them, and a man paddles and steers behind, whilst two others row at the sides, and in this manner they proceed in their canoes to the number of four or five hundred together. Then they depute a chief, accompanied by two from each nation, to dispose of their skins, for which they receive in exchange, spirits, pipes and tobacco. They begin

## 156 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

their treat by presenting some skins to the governor of the fort to obtain his protection, and at the conclusion, the calumet is presented to the chief and his companions, after which they all have a grand dance and return in the order they came.

Nelson is a considerable place in North America, upon account of the great fur trade that is carried on there. It lies in the latitude of 57°, the port is very fine and the anchorage good. The country around it is woody and marshy. The cold is insupportable, and the land is covered seven or eight feet with snow in the winter. The rivers around it are full

full of fish, and there is great plenty of game.

The chiefs of the different nations are amongst some of them hereditary, whilst the greater part of them are elected; they are every where in general tall and well made; they are of an olive cast, have black hair and eyes, and white teeth; they are in general indefatigable, and support the infirmities of human nature with the greatest patience; they bear even the most excessive cold and violent heat without every once murmuring. They are not so strong as the Europeans, and it would be impossible for them to carry the heavy burthens the latter are

are frequently obliged to. The women, especially the Hinois, are rather above the common size ; they are pretty and in general have regular features ; their size prevents their shape being so well distinguished as those of the men, but they are in general as well proportioned, and have remarkable long fine hair ; they tie it with a piece of ribbon, and let it flow down their backs, and never cut it ; but the men cut theirs every month.

Those who are advanced in years, as well as the married people, commonly wear a piece of stuff round their waists, which hangs as low down as the middle of their thighs, but when they go out to hunt, they



they substitute a skin of some animal. The young people of both sexes go quite naked in general, except when the excessive cold obliges them to cover themselves; they wear bonnets which resemble hats, and boots made of bucks or elks skin when they hunt.

The town or villages in which they live are surrounded with strong pallisades about eighteen or twenty inches in circumference; they are made of exceeding hard wood, and are about eighteen feet above the land. Their cabins or huts are very large; they are commonly from sixty to a hundred feet in length, and from twenty to thirty-five in breadth,

and

## 160 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

and are covered with the barks of different trees. They commonly live three, four and five families together in one cabin, on each side of which there are bed-rooms raised about twelve inches above the surface of the earth, and about eight feet square. They make their fires in the middle of their huts, and there are holes at the top instead of chimneys to let the smoke out.

The savages are in general exceedingly sensible, and capable of instruction. They are sage, brave, prudent, obliging and peaceable; they are not in the least ambitious, they never willingly offend, are not given to slander, hold the robber in

in abhorrence, and mutually succor and assist each other: if they think that any one wants assistance, they go and offer their service, and spare them the mortification of asking: they treat their parents with the greatest submission and obedience, and shew the greatest veneration of, and tenderness to old age. They abhor money, and consider gold and silver as the primary cause of every vice in Europe; so that they never receive money for their skins, but exchange them for the necessities they want for their subsistence.

What I have here said of the qualities the savages possess is in general, but there are some nations amongst them that

162 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

that are cruel, fierce, indolent and treacherous, with almost every bad property.

They do not profess the same religion; some are idolatrous, others adore the sun; but they all acknowledge a first cause, and believe in a good Genii, to which they sacrifice frequently.

I will here enumerate those nations in alphabetical order which are most known: viz. The

Agnies, who compose two nations, one of which inhabit the banks of the river Saint Lawrence, and the other  
dwell

dwell in the inner parts of the kingdom.

**Abenakis.** They also form two nations, one inhabits Arcadia, the other the environs of Silery.

**Algonkins,** who live upon the banks of Saint Lawrence.

**Almikonefts;** they are friends and neighbours of the Nepissiriens and inhabit the lake of Nepissing.

**Assinponals;** they live along the banks of the Mississippi, they are brave and good hunters.

**Atintons**



164 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

Atintons, who dwell in the neighbourhood of Lake Tracy or Superior.

Attimospiquais; they are very brave, industrious, and great hunters.

Abitibis; they inhabit the fort of that name, which is situated on the south of the channel of the river called Outabibis.

Attikameks. They live round the lake of the Hurons.

Cánibas. They live in Arcadia, and are valiant and cruel.

Christi-

**Christinous.** They inhabit the environs of Hudson's Bay; they are good warriors, brave and generous.

**Etchemins.** They are brave, and alert, but cruel; they live in Arcadia.

**Esquimaux.** They inhabit the great country of Labrador, which is full of bays, ports, and havens; their country extends from the coast which is opposite to the isles of Mingan, even to Hudson's Bay. They are cruel, fierce, indolent and treacherous; they always bring what they want to exchange in their canoes, and always traffic upon the water. This nation is

166 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

is very numerous, and is capable of bringing thirty thousand men into the field.

**Gaspefiens.** They inhabit along the banks of the river Mississippi.

**Goyagans.** They inhabit along the banks of Lake Frontenac.

**Hurons.** They form two nations, one of which, firnamed Loreto, inhabit the banks of the river Saint Lawrence, whilst the other live upon the banks of the lake of their name: they are both very brave.

**Iroquois.**

Iroquois. They likewise form two nations, one is called the Iroquis of the mountains of Montreal, and they live in that country ; the others are called the Iroquois Tsonantanans, and they inhabit the village of Niagara : they are brave and good warriors, but very cruel.

Hinois de Chegahiou. They inhabit the environs of the lake of their name ; they are brave, generous, and good warriors.

Kikapous. They likewise inhabit the environs of Lake Hinois, and are also very brave.

Michini-

**Michinipicots.** They are very courageous, great hunters, and industrious.

**Micmaes.**  
**Mahingans.** } They are brave, good warriors, alert, swift hunters, and live in Arcadia.

**Montagonois.** They inhabit the banks of the river Saint Lawrence.

**Missisaghes.** They live on the north side of the lake of the Hurons, along the banks of a river which empties itself by several branches into that lake, and is full of exquisite fish. Game is  
 • remar-



remarkably plentiful in their country, and it is besides very fertile. They are fierce, arrogant, haughty, and unsociable.

Maskouteas  
Malomimis. { They inhabit the environs  
of Lake Hinois, and are  
good warriors.

Monfonis  
Machakandibis { They inhabit the banks  
of the river Outaouaes,  
and are indolent and  
cowardly.

Nockes. They live about Lake Hurons;  
they are brave and fierce.

Nopermini d' Acherinis. They inhabit the banks of the river Outaouaes, and are cowardly.

Nepissiriens. They inhabit the banks of the lake Nepissing: this lake is about thirty leagues in length, and four wide; it receives several rivers from the north and north west, all of which have great plenty of fish. The Nepissiriens are cowards.

Netaouatsemipoets. They are brave and great hunters, and go every year to treat at Fort Nelson, which is near four hundred leagues distant from them.

VI Ouche-

Ouchestigoueks. They live in the interior part of Labrador, and are neighbours of the Esquimaux; they are slothful and stupid.

Oucuebegous. They live north of the bay of Puants: they are a very small nation, they make good warriors, are laborious and indefatigable, but they are cruel, and are canibals.

Outabitibis. They live along the banks of a river of the same name, which falls into Hudson's Bay.

Outaouaes: they inhabit the coasts of the lake of Hurons and are one of the largest nations in Canada.

172 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

Ouenbigouhelinis. They are brave and good hunters.

Oskuifaquamais. They are great hunters and brave; but very obstinate.

Openangos. They inhabit Arcadia; they are good warriors, very alert and swift runners, but very cruel.

Outehipoues. They live near the lake of Hurons, and are very active; they are good warriors.

Oumanis. { They inhabit the environs  
Outagamis. { of Lake Hinois, and are  
Ojathirous. { very brave.

Orma-

**Ormatagues.** They live upon the banks of Lake Frontenac, and are great hunters.

**Ormoyoutes.** They live in the inland parts, and are good warriors and hunters.

**Ouadbatous.** They inhabit the environs of Lake Superior; they are alert and good warriors.

**Papinachois.** They live along the river Saint Lawrence, and are swift in their hunting.

**Pouteouatamis.** They inhabit the environs of Lake Hinois, are alert and good warriors.



174. VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

Soccokis. They live in Arcadia, they are good warriors, and active, but cruel.

Sakis. They live about Lake Hinois, and are active, and good warriors.

Soukaskitons. They inhabit the banks of Lake Tracy or Superior, and are alert and good warriors.

Savanois. They are brave and good hunters.

Temiskaminks. They dwell along the banks of the river Outaouacs, and are great cowards.

Tabitibis

Tabitibis. They are the most indolent of all the savages, and inhabit the environs of the river Outaouaes.

After thus giving a short account of the savages that inhabit Canada, I will return to my voyage; we sailed from Quebeck for Nantes on the tenth of October, and on the sixth of November we were becalmed for several days together, which was followed by a most violent tempest, accompanied with rain, thunder and lightening. We continued forty hours in almost total darkness, and during that time we lost our mast; which was the only one we had aboard. We shipped a great many heavy seas, and were the

sport of the waves for two days and a half; during which time, our round-house and mizen-mast were both carried away, and we began to give up all hopes; but after sixty hours blowing very hard, the wind ceased, the air became serene, and the waves grew still, which gave us fresh spirits, though they were not a little damped by our carpenter informing us there were four feet water in the hold, and five leaks, none of which he could get at to stop entirely; this reduced all of us indiscriminately to the necessity of pumping incessantly for the preservation of our lives; we repaired the damages we had suffered in the best manner we could, and continued  
our

our course and observations till the thirtieth of November, Saint Andrew's day; when we perceived between eleven and twelve in the forenoon two Flemish brigantines which we came up with, and hailed them to know from whence they came: they informed us that they had sailed from Belleisle at eight o'clock that day. The thoughts of the danger we had escaped made us tremble, for if we had not accidentally met those vessels, we should inevitably have been dashed to pieces upon the rocks on the coast of Brittany, which are very dangerous; and, according to our reckonings, we were a hundred and fifty leagues distant. In consequence of this information, we heaved the lead,

## 178 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

and found only sixty fathom water, we therefore slackened sail, and lay by waiting for the next day. As soon as daylight appeared, we continued our course, and at ten in the forenoon, a sailor, who was at the main top gallant-mast-head cried out, land. Joy instantly appeared in the countenances of the whole crew, they seemed to forget their distress, and worked at the pump with greater courage. We fired a gun every half hour to inform the pilots ashore; one of them came off about noon, and conducted our ship safe into Belleisle; where we anchored about five in the afternoon, the first day of December, 1733. We immediately had a great number of boats along side with  
fish



fish and water, which latter article was exceedingly acceptable, as what we had aboard was very bad. Mr. Prepont bought fish for the whole company, and gave them some spirits to mix with their water, to cheer their hearts, after the hardships and distresses they had suffered. We weighed anchor again the next day, and sailed for Painbœuf where we anchored at three in the afternoon, on the second of December, the fifty-second day after our departure from Quebec.

As soon as we arrived in the port of Painbœuf, the people whose office it is to examine every vessel that enters, to know whether they have any contagious

diseases aboard, came to pay us a visit: in case we had any such disease they would have obliged us to perform quarantine, and not have suffered any of us to come ashore; but as we were free from contagion, we were left at our liberty. We immediately hired a long boat, and put our most valuable things into her, and such as we were not willing to trust to any other person's care. After Mr. Prepont had given orders to Mr. Trainfort to hire a magazine or store-house at Painbœuf to deposit our cargo in, whilst our vessel was repaired, we embarked with Mr. B\*\*\* and Mr. Cahuzet, and sailed for Nantes. When we were got half way there, the searchers came aboard,

aboard, but could find nothing that they dared seize ; however, it hindered us an hour, and we did not arrive at Nantes till eleven o'clock at night. We went immediately ashore to an inn, where we ordered our goods in the boat to be conveyed ; we afterwards sent back the vessel to Mr. Trainfort, who would want it to unload the ship.

The first thing we did the next day was to go to mass, to return thanks for the mercies God had granted us : Mr. Prepont and I went afterwards to pay a visit to the Count de Menon, who was governor of the Castle at Nantes, whom Mr. Prepont was intimately acquainted with.

He

## 182 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

He received us very politely, as independent of his acquaintance with Mr. Prepont, he was a near relation of the Marquis de Champigny's, governor general of the French Leeward Islands. We afterwards visited M. Dionis, Commissioner of the navy office, whom I had seen several times at Paris, at M. Leffevilles, who offered us his service. We afterwards visited a correspondent of Mr. Prepont's, as also of the Marquis de Champigny's who lived but a short distance from our inn, and was named M. Fontenoy Prud'homme; we gave him an inventory of our cargo, in order that he might procure the means of a quick sale. This merchant was one of the most honest

honest men I ever knew, and soon after Mr. Prepont's death, he gave me proofs of uncommon integrity.

Some days afterwards, I informed M. Lesseville of my return to France, and desired him to write in my favor to Count Menon and M. Dionis.

One day that we went to dine with M. Fontenoy Prud'homme, we had a long conference with him upon the subject of our schemes, he gave us some good and useful instructions, the following of which would have improved our affairs very much, but all our schemes were disconcerted by providence. Mr. Prud'

homme



homme observed to us, that as according to all appearances we could not be ready for sea in less than six months at least, it would be prudent as soon as our vessel was unloaded to discharge the crew, except what were absolutely necessary to guard the ship. He informed us, that provided we spoke to M. Dionis fifteen days before our intended departure, he would engage us as many sailors as we should have occasion for; but before executing that part of his instructions, he advised us in order to avoid expences, to have all our merchandize brought from Painbœuf to Nantes; he proposed to deposit them in his own magazine; where he had sufficient room, until we found a convenient

ent opportunity of parting with them advantageously; which would be much easier to execute at Nantes than Painbœuf, on account of their nature and quality. We coincided with his opinion, and resolved to follow his advice in every thing. Upon our return home, we imparted our designs to Mr. B\*\*\*, and engaged him to go to Painbœuf, and to attend every day the bringing of the effects from thence to Nantes. Mr. Prepont wrote a letter to his lieutenant, Mr. Trainfort, in consequence of our resolutions, and gave it to Mr. B\*\*\*; who, unwilling to lose any time, departed the same evening.

Mr;

## 186 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

Mr. Cahuzet, who had recovered himself from the fatigues of his voyage, during the fifteen days we had been at Nantes, expressed to Mr. Prepont his desire to return to Montaubau, where he came from, to make his peace, with his family. That generous merchant approving of his resolution, gave him, as a present, in-return for the services he had done him at Quebec, twenty-five Louis d'Ors to equip himself properly, and for the expences of his journey: eight days afterwards, he took his leave of us and departed.

I received, at the expiration of that time, an answer from Mr. Lefseville, who

who congratulated me on my return to France, and advised me to take an opportunity of making a journey to Paris whilst I staid in the kingdom, where my presence was absolutely necessary on account of the affairs to which I had succeeded, during my absence, by the death of my brother ; he inclosed a letter for the Count de Menon, and another for M. Dionis, which I immediately delivered according to the directions, presenting them at the same time with a bottle of Florida balsam, another of Canada, and a third of the syrup of maple, which they received with pleasure ; I likewise presented the same to Mr. Fontenoy Prud'homme.

In

In fifteen days we had got all our merchandize in our friend's warehouse, through the great diligence of Mr. B\*\*\*, who gave Mr. Prepont an account of the expences which he had been at in conducting them to Nantes, which he immediately repaid; he gave in at the same time an account of our crew, who were paid off, excepting a few that were kept to guard the ship, and he ordered Mr. Trainfort, whose presence was useless at Painbceuf, to come to us at Nantes, where he arrived the next day.

Whilst Mr. Prepont was engaged in business, I endeavoured to procure myself some amusements. One day that I  
supped



supped with M. Dionis, I became acquainted with a very amiable young man, named M. M\*\*\*, who was the son of a rich merchant in that town. He proposed to take me to a ball the next evening; I accepted his proposal, with pleasure and accompanied him the next evening to a citizen's house, where I found a very genteel company assembled. He had been a widower eight years, and had only one child, she was then about eighteen years of age, and eclipsed all the other ladies in the room in point of beauty and gracefulness of person. Amongst other ladies there was Miss T\*\*\* a relation of Miss D\*\*\*'s, whose father gave the ball, who was that night queen of the assembly.

I dan-

190 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

I danced the whole evening with Miss D\*\*\*, and conceived the strongest affection for her.

When we were breaking up, Miss T\*\*\* gave me a ticket for an approaching ball, which I presented to my partner, who accepted it with pleasure. I desired leave to visit her, and Mr. D\*\*\* her father, who was present at the time I made my request, and was universally esteemed and beloved, gave me a general invitation to his house whenever I pleased.

After we had broke up, I informed M. M\*\*\* of my regard for my partner; he told me that she was a good fortune,  
that

that she did not live always at Nantes, but at a country house of her aunt's about eighteen miles from the town, who was the mother of Miss T\*\*\*; he informed me, that the latter was a coquette, jealous, and of a dangerous disposition, and that I ought to esteem myself remarkably happy if I escaped the marks of her malignity, if ever she perceived my esteem for her cousin. This information had no other effect on me, than to make me resolve to act with the greatest circumspection.

I gave a ball in return for those I had been at, which was prepared in a genteel manner, through the good offices of my friend

friend M. M\*\*\*. Mr. Prepont, who for some days before had felt an increase of pain in his side, with an obstinate cough, which occasioned him to spit up large quantities of bloody purulent matter, could not attend; therefore I left Mr. Trainfort with him, and took Mr. B\*\*\* with me, whom I instructed properly as to his behaviour to Miss T\*\*\*, which gave me an opportunity of disclosing my passion to my fair partner. She was not displeased at my declaration, but insisted upon my declaring myself to her father, who she said loved her and would not contradict her inclination: but that the greatest caution and secrecy was necessary in the conducting of the affair, even.

even after the father's approbation, till the conclusion of it, as she knew her cousin liked me, and knew her disposition to be such, as was capable of the most diabolical designs; therefore, she desired me to engage her father to be very close and reserved, and desired me also to shew her no more than common civilities before her cousin, but to give her the preference. I promised to obey her in every thing, and about five o'clock we broke up.

I went the next day to the house of Mr. D\*\*\*, and informed him of my affection for his daughter, and begged his permission to pay my addresses to her, to which he gave his consent. Miss D\*\*\*



came in at that instant and joined her intreaties to mine, to engage him to keep the affair an entire secret till every thing was concluded; he promised and faithfully kept his word.

One day that I was dining with Mr. Fontenoy Prud'homme, Mr. Trainfort came to inform me that Mr. Prepont perceived himself much worse than usual. We immediately went to him, and found him attended by his surgeon and two physicians, who he had called in to consult upon his case. I attended the two latter to the door when they went out, in order to learn their opinion. They declared to me, that they could not flatter themselves

with

with the hopes of his recovery, and that he had not fifteen days to live. This information affected me so much, that I could not conceal my distress at my return to his chamber. My tears convinced him that he ought to settle his affairs and prepare himself to receive in heaven, his reward for the many good things he had done in this life. He desired Mr. Fontenoy Prud'homme to come the next day with a notary, and gave Mr. B\*\*\* and Mr. Trainfort some orders which obliged them to leave him; as soon as the room was cleared, he desired me to approach his bed side and addressed me in the following words:

196 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

“ The only thing, my dear friend,  
“ that makes me uneasy at the approach  
“ of my latter end, is yourself ; I only  
“ regret the loss of life, I’ll assure you,  
“ upon your account, because you are yet  
“ too young to be left to yourself; I know  
“ you well, your passions are strong.  
“ When you shall have me no longer  
“ with you, and you have dried up your  
“ tears for the loss of me, I am afraid  
“ you will give a loose to those passions,  
“ the consequences of which makes me  
“ tremble at this moment. Let me de-  
“ sire you to guard against yourself, for  
“ believe, me you have no other enemy  
“ so strong to contend with. If you  
“ are willing to overcome yourself,  
“ never

“ never execute any of your schemes,  
 “ until you have maturely digested and  
 “ considered them for some days; then  
 “ recollect the advice which I have given  
 “ you at different times, upon different  
 “ occasions, which will be the surest  
 “ means of preventing the dangers you  
 “ would otherwise inevitably experience.  
 “ I advise you, immediately as soon as  
 “ the funds you have in my cargo are  
 “ restored to you, with the profits arising  
 “ from them, to return immediately  
 “ to your friends and relations; carry  
 “ your ambition no further, you will  
 “ have sufficient to procure you a convenient  
 “ and happy establishment; therefore I particularly recommend to you



“ to cross the seas no more ; dissipation  
“ and love of pleasure are incompatible  
“ with the merchant and man of business,  
“ which requires cares and attentions  
“ that you are incapable of, to insure  
“ success, and will not admit of confi-  
“ dence being placed indiscriminately,  
“ for it is generally abused, and you must  
“ not expect to find another such a friend  
“ as myself ; they are very rare. Take  
“ this ring, he continued, I give it you  
“ with greater pleasure, as it will not  
“ be proper for a woman’s finger,  
“ wear it always, and never part  
“ with it unless in case of the greatest  
“ necessity, or that it is taken from  
“ you by violence. Give me immediately  
“ a copy



“ a copy of the inventory of the cargo,  
“ such as it was at our departure from  
“ Martinico, as I want to alter something  
“ in it.”

I went to fetch what he desired, and upon my presenting it to him, he acknowledged at the bottom that our cargo when we departed from Fort St. Pierre, cost 240000 livres, and that I was concerned for one third part, which I had paid for before we sailed from Martinico. After that acknowledgement he wrote at the bottom, that I was free from every expence since our departure from Fort St. Pierre till our arrival at Nantes. “ There  
“ said that generous man, presenting me

“ with the deed, is what I design to do  
 “ for you. I return thanks to God,  
 “ who has granted me power before  
 “ death to give you this last proof of  
 “ my friendship for you. It will be  
 “ sufficient with what you inherit from  
 “ your brother, to procure you an ho-  
 “ norable establishment, remember me  
 “ sometimes, and I shall die contented. I  
 “ shall engage Mr. Fontenoy Prud’ham-  
 “ me to have the same concern for your  
 “ interest, as he had for mine; and, to  
 “ facilitate the means, I shall desire him  
 “ to take upon himself the execution of  
 “ my last will, as well upon your account  
 “ as what concerns Mr. Trainfort, to  
 “ whom I shall be very happy in giving  
 “ a

“ a proof of the greatest satisfaction I  
 “ have received from his services for al-  
 “ most these twenty years past, which  
 “ he has performed with the utmost zeal  
 “ and fidelity”.

Mr. B\*\*\* arrived at this instant, Mr. Pre-  
 pont desired him to fetch a confessor, and  
 intreated me to leave him, that he might  
 recover and compose himself; therefore I  
 retired to my apartment, where I gave a  
 free course to my tears for the approach-  
 ing loss of so inestimable a man.

He received the sacrament the next  
 day with great piety and made his will;  
 about eleven days afterwards he sighed

## 202 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

his last within my arms, in the fifty second year of his age. I was distressed for the loss of him beyond description; they conveyed me to the house of Mr. Dionis, where I continued till my grief become more moderate. Mr. Fontenoy Prud'homme, Mr. B\*\*\* and Mr. Trainfort conducted the funeral obsequies of my deceased friend, at which I was permitted to assist. The former came to me a few days afterwards and read me the will, in which Mr. Prepont had bequeathed me one of his negroes named Layr, whom he had observed that I was fond, of and mentioned the ring he had given me before his death. He likewise mentioned my share of the cargo again, and

and bequeathed the ship to Mr. Trainfort, and left his sword, watch and a hundred Louis D'Ors to Mr. B\*\*\*. He left Mrs. St. Ange his sole heir, and appointed Mr. Prud'homme his executor. That gentleman informed me, that he could not act till he heard from Mrs. St. Ange, to whom he proposed writing, and sending an inventory, by a vessel that was to sail for Martinico in two days. He informed me that he would send every thing proper for her to sign before he could act, and that if I wanted money before the affairs were settled, I might have it of him; but I had no occasion for his assistance, for I had fifteen or sixteen thousand livres in specie.



As soon as Mr. Prud'homme left me, I wrote to inform the Marquis de Champigny of the misfortune that had happened, I wrote also to Mr. Lefseville and Mrs. Saint Ange. I went afterwards to pay a visit to Miss D\*\*\*, who testified the greatest sorrow for my loss, and the family pressed me very much to spend some weeks in the Country along with them, which I consented to.

I acquainted Mr. Dionis and Mr. Prud'homme of my design, which they approved of. Mr. B\*\*\* and Mr. Trainfort hearing of my departure, came and informed me they proposed remaining at Nantes till every thing was finally settled.

I re-

I received an answer the next day from Mr. Lefseville, in which he pressed me very much to come to Paris, which I consented to, and desired him to hire a ready furnished apartment for me, and I would be with him in a few weeks.

The next day I accompanied Mr. D\*\*\* and his daughter, and Miss T\*\*\* into the country, to Miss T\*\*\*'s mother's house, which was situated on the banks of the Loire, on a delightful spot, where the air was pure and wholesome, and an agreeable neighborhood. We had every day some good company, and I passed my time very happily, observing always the greatest secret with respect to my connection.

Paris

After

## 206 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

After some weeks, I pretended indispensable business obliged me to leave them, which I was exceedingly sorry for, but hoped to have the pleasure of paying another visit very soon after my return from Paris. I departed from Nantes the next day after I had made my apology, accompanied by Mr. D\*\*\* and his amiable daughter, in whom I daily discovered new charms.

After some days spent at Nantes, I set off for Paris, where I arrived the Saturday following, and went to dine the next day with M. Lesfeville; we had a long conference on the subject of my succession to my deceased brother. I gave him an  
exact

exact account afterwards of every thing that had happened to me, and concluded with informing him of my desire to marry Miss D\*\*\*; he assured me, that if during my stay at Viviers, (the place where my possessions lay) where he advised me to go immediately to settle my affairs, he had a good account of my choice, he would consent to the union with pleasure, as he said it would be a means of fixing my inconstancy.

After I was returned to my apartments I wrote to Miss D\*\*\*, to inform her of the conversation that had passed; I informed her also of my journey to Viviers, and the motives that induced me to go, and

208 VOYAGES AND ADVENTURES

and promised her I would not continue long at Paris after my return, but would join her immediately.

I sent my negro the next day to hire me a post-chaise, and departed for Viviers; where upon my arrival, I found every thing in excellent order, owing to the care of M. Lefseville; every thing was so regular, that I finished in three weeks. Notwithstanding the pleasures that my friends endeavored to procure for me, they could not induce me to stay longer than the time necessary for settling my affairs, and I departed for Paris the day afterwards, where I arrived on the evening of St. John. I went the

but

next



next day to Mr. Leffevilles, who informed me, that from the account he had from Count Menou of Miss D\*\*\* he consented to my union with pleasure. I took every measure whilst at Paris to forward the match, and desired Mr. D\*\*\* would do the same at Nantes, and that as soon as I had procured the necessary formalities, I would return.

As I was going one day to buy some jewels, I was accosted by a marine officer, with whom I had been intimately acquainted at Fort St. Pierre in Martinico, we dined together, and afterwards went to the gaming table. Fortune certainly began

## 210 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

began to be weary of dispensing her favours to me, for I lost a hundred and sixty Louis D'Ors, and my companion was as unfortunate. We parted with a promise of meeting there again the next day, but returning reason convinced me of the folly; but my companion who had less resolution, lost all he was possessed of the next day. The day following he came to desire me to lend him fifty pieces, which I consented to upon his giving me a draft on the commissary at Nantes.

In about ten days afterwards, I settled my affairs at Paris, and departed for Nantes,

Nantes, after taking my leave of Mr. Lesséville, where I arrived on the eighth of August. I found Mr. Prud'homme, Mr. B\*\*\* and Mr. Trainfort at supper together; they informed me that they daily expected to hear from Martinico, which they were surpris'd at not having done before, especially as a vessel had arrived from thence, a month after the dispatches they had sent had been received.

I went the next day to visit Miss D\*\*\*, in whom I found a great alteration, she was become very thin and seem'd to be in a decline, and in short, in six weeks afterwards

terwards she departed this life, and undoubtedly, the reason that the distress I suffered from that loss, did not destroy me, was, that I was reserved by providence to experience a long series of misfortunes.

During this time we received the answers we wished for from Martinico. Mr. Prud'homme, after the usual formalities, proceeded to the sale of our cargo, which produced, after all expences were deducted, the neat sum of 578423 livres, which would have been much more, if they had been disposed of on our first arrival, but there were two ships arrived about two months before, laden with the same

same commodities. Mr. Prud'homme gave me my share, and paid the legacies out of the remainder.

Mr. Trainfort prepared to sail with his ship to Martinico, whilst Mr. B\*\*\* proposed going to Paris before he continued his voyage. As for myself, the frowns of fortune that I had experienced for two years successively, had very much weakened my ambition, and I determined to follow the wise counsel Mr. Prepont had given me before his death. I should have been happy if I had always persisted in that resolution, but my fickleness and inconstancy destroyed all my good designs.

Nothing



## 214 VOYAGES and ADVENTURES

Nothing detaining me longer at Nantes, I took leave of all my friends, and departed on the eighteenth of December, 1734, for Paris, with an intention of fixing my residence there, and to form a proper establishment, if an opportunity presented.

**F I N I S.**  
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